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# ARAB TIMES



SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 1989 / MOHARRAM 26, 1410 AH

New... New... New... New... New...

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**The Arabian Year Book 1989**

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22 PAGES 150 FILS

Oman  
stiffens  
sheep  
tests

MUSCAT, Aug 26. (Agencies):  
Oman ordered newly stringent  
health tests on a consignment of  
7,000 live Australian sheep arriv-  
ing today, but an agriculture  
official said there was "no cause  
for alarm" that the animals  
might be diseased.

Laboratory examinations for  
bluetongue disease, sheep pox  
and undulant fever were to be  
carried out before the animals  
are released from quarantine at  
Port Qaboos, said Khanfar  
Khanfar, director of animal  
wealth at the Ministry of  
Agriculture and Fisheries.

Meanwhile, a team of Aus-  
tralian experts was due to discuss  
with Omani officials on the crisis  
resulting from Saudi Arabia's  
recent rejection of five shiploads  
of live sheep on grounds they  
were afflicted by the viruses  
bluetongue and sheep pox.

The Saudi claim triggered a  
furor in Australia's huge live-  
stock export industry, which sells  
some \$174 million worth of live  
sheep to the Middle East  
annually. Saudi Arabia is the biggest  
customer, buying 3.5 million  
animals worth about \$61 million.

Asserting that the viruses do  
not exist in their country, Aus-  
tralian officials have requested  
that the Saudis release clinical  
test data to back up the disease  
allegation. The Saudis so far  
have not done so. An Australian  
official said Saudis have ignored  
the requests.

The Australians are said to  
believe the issue stems from trade  
disputes within Riyadh organiza-  
tions, but have privately  
expressed fears that other Gulf  
Arab states might follow the  
Saudi lead in banning sheep  
imports.

Khanfar said Oman has never  
had a problem with Australian  
sheep and normally accepts them  
without health tests. "But in the  
light of Saudi Arabia's rejection  
of allegedly diseased sheep in  
recent weeks, we feel we must be  
careful," he said.

At least three other Gulf coun-  
tries also have imposed tighter  
controls, mostly by extending  
quarantine periods for Aus-  
tralian sheep, in the wake of the  
Saudi actions.

Qatar today gave a clean bill of  
health to 35,000 sheep that it  
earlier had said were found to be  
carrying Maltese fever, another  
malady the Australians say does  
not exist in their sheep-raising  
industry.

## DAY BY DAY

LAWS proposed for amend-  
ment at the Ministry of Com-  
merce and Industry remain  
under consideration, which  
has been quite a lengthy task.

It is said that these amend-  
ments are being studied by the  
Department of Legal Advice  
and Legislation (Fatwa). Undoubtedly, these legal  
changes are of considerable  
consequences.

Vital issues should be  
 accorded priority and treated  
accordingly — if they are not  
meant to be made obsolete  
due to delays.

The proposed amendments  
relate to company laws such as  
the holding companies and off-shore  
companies.

**Zahed Matar**

## Rajiv urges calm in St Kitts Affair

Documents correct, says bank official

Arab Times report

INDIAN political sources have revealed that Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi has urged restraint in the St Kitts Affair. This position is in contrast with the recent clamour for an investigation into allegations that opposition leader VP Singh deposited more than \$21 million in a secret numbered bank account in the name of his son Ajeya Singh, during his tenure as Indian minister of finance.

In the wake of the allegations which first appeared in the Indian press that it has been widely reported in the Indian press that

However, according to the political sources, Rajiv has instead pointed out that to date the Indian government has not officially received any evidence to support the recent allegations, all of which have been contained only in press reports.

According to the sources, Rajiv has urged calm and restraint until further information has been obtained.

The sources said Rajiv told his advisers: Much as it would be to my own advantage, for the benefit of Indian democracy, we cannot order a criminal investigation of a leading political candidate without compelling cause."

Indian sources have also said that George Maclean, founder and former managing director of The First Trust Corporation Limited, of St Kitts refuted recent Indian press claims that the documents related to the account alleged to have been held by Ajeya Singh were obviously forgeries, because they were not in the standard format used by the bank. Maclean was said to be speaking from his house in Toronto, Canada.

Maclean said that the documents are in the exact form which was used by The First Trust Corporation for such documents. Citing St Kitts' banking secrecy laws, he refused to confirm or deny that account number 29479 was held by Ajeya Singh. Maclean would not confirm or deny that he had signed those documents, but he did provide with samples of his signature and his initials, which seem to conform with certain signatures and initials appearing on the Numbered Account Agreement and on the annual statements transmitted hereafter.

Meanwhile, investigation and interviews with government officials, local businessmen, banking officials, and other sources in St Kitts and elsewhere have revealed the following:

While The First Trust Corporation Ltd had few accounts many of its account holders were very wealthy. Within one year after its formation the company had taken in so much money that the banking system of the eastern Caribbean was unable to absorb all of it. Looking for outlets for the money outside of the Caribbean, the company discovered that many US banks, touchy about drug money laundering by Caribbean banks, would not accept deposits from The First Trust Corporation. Because of this, the company's management invested most of its depositions' funds in various English Channel Islands banks. Withdrawals by the company's customers were often paid with banker's drafts issued by these Channel Islands' banks.

Certain Channel Islands' banks, which worked with The First Trust Corporation have been identified. (See Page 2)

leading members of both the prime minister's Congress (I) party and of several opposition parties have called for an immediate investigation into what is now known as the St. Kitts Affair. Indian political analysts had suggested that recently weakened by the reports on Bofors scandal Rajiv would seize on this opportunity to order India's CBI (Criminal Bureau of Investigation) to commence a criminal investigation into the allegations against Singh.

Rajiv has reportedly been urged by certain advisers to order a full-scale investigation of Singh.



Everyone a winner

Hot weather notwithstanding enthusiastic Filipinos in Kuwait gathered together to watch the selection of Mr and Miss Philippines — Kuwait 89. Naser Al Nazer and Pamela Rose Rojo were unanimously chosen winners. The dapper

children pictured above the Marjan Martin who captured the Miss Metro Manila title and little Ahmed Tariq Sairat, who did not win a title but nevertheless stole many hearts.

Full Report Page 9

## Revenge killings in Lanka

## 36 die in blood tide

COLOMBO, Aug 26. (AP): At least 20 people were shot and killed in a central Sri Lankan village, military officials said yesterday. Residents accused the military of carrying out the killings.

As yesterday, five policemen were killed by Sinhalese extremist People's Liberation Front (JVP), officials said.

The bodies of the victims, all Sinhalese, were thrown into six houses that were later burned, said the military officials, who cannot be identified under briefing rules.

They said the killings occurred yesterday in Tirapane, 165 kilometers (100 miles) northeast of Colombo, after the parents of a soldier were shot and killed by suspected Sinhalese radicals.

Residents in Anuradhapura, 20 kilometers (12 miles) from Tirapane, blamed the attack on soldiers in civilian clothes and said it apparently was to avenge the killing of their colleague's parents. The residents, contacted by telephone, spoke on condition of anonymity.

An opposition lawmaker, Janak Mahendra Adikari, said in Anuradhapura that the Tirapane toll could be much higher. He said hundreds of villagers had fled to Anuradhapura.

Pro-government vigilante groups and the military have been accused in the past of killing civilians during operations against Sinhalese extremists. The government denies the charge.

In another attack yesterday, six to seven homes in Katukelyawa, 25 kilometers (15 miles) south of Anuradhapura, were burned by men in military uniforms, said Adikari, contacted by telephone.

There are reports of five to six civilian casualties in this attack, but we do not have confirmation," he said.

The Front stepped up its campaign of assassinations and strikes after President Ranasinghe Premadasa imposed a nation-wide state of emergency June 20. The government says at least 1,000 people have died since July 15.

In their latest attacks, the radicals detonated a bomb under a police vehicle in Kurunegala district yesterday, killing three policemen and a civilian driver, the military officials said.

One labourer travelling in the vehicle also was killed and five police were injured in the blast, which occurred about 150 kilometers (85 miles) northeast of Colombo, the officials said.

They said two policemen and a wildlife official were killed yesterday in an ambush of their vehicle in Anuradhapura district, which carries the same name as its largest town.

A naval officer, a Front member and three civilians were killed in separate incidents during the past 24 hours in southern Sri Lanka, the officials said. One unidentified body also was found, they said.

At least 5,000 people have died in the Sinhalese extremist campaign, launched in July, 1987 to protest the government's peace overtures to Tamil separatists in the northeast.

## Tryst with Triton

The triumphant Voyager 2 space probe zoomed past ringed Neptune and beamed back flyby photos of its strange moon Triton. Friday showing the ancient remnants of slowly flowing ice volcanoes and a tortured terrain dusted with frozen natural gas.

As the hard-working robot raced past Neptune and then Triton, it looked back and photographed the pinkish moon as this crescent, almost as if bidding farewell to the known solar system after an epic once-in-a-lifetime grand

tour of the outer planets.

Part of the complex geologic history of icy Triton, Neptune's largest moon, is shown in this Voyager 2 photo of 300 miles across. It encompasses two depressions. The rough area in the middle of the bottom depression probably marks the most recent eruption of material. (Reuters wirephoto)

(Full report page 5)

**Sheikh Saad returns:** HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah returned home this evening after a private visit to a number of European countries.

He was received at the airport by head of the National Guard Sheikh Saleh Al Ali, Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah, sheikhs, ministers as well as a number of senior officials and local dignitaries. (KUNA)

**Rail links suspended:** Turkey cut all rail links with neighbouring Bulgaria Saturday in a worsening of their row over ethnic Turk. An Amman news agency said.

Passengers to and from Europe racing the border by rail would now have to cross on foot, the agency said. (Reuters)

**Heavy European winter:** The premature passage over Cyprus of a huge flock of white storks migrating south indicated an early heavy winter in Europe, ornithologist Pavlos Neophytou said on Saturday.

"There were about 3,000 white storks in the flock, a huge number never experienced before in Cyprus as far as we know," said Neophytou, the secretary of the Cyprus Ornithological Society.

Another unusual aspect was the early migration of the storks and their passage through Cyprus on their way to Africa from Europe, he added.

"Such an event indicates there will be an early and heavy winter in Europe," Neophytou said. (AP)

**Hotel fire kills seven:** An overnight fire at a hotel in suburban Paris took the lives of seven guests and left 17 others injured, police said on Saturday.

The fire began about 11 pm (2100 GMT) in the stairwell of the Hotel Hennout Goula de Clichy in the suburb of Clichy and quickly spread through the top floor of the four-storey hotel, which caters primarily to African tourists. (AP)

**Baig in Saudi Arabia:** Pakistan's Chief of Staff Gen Mirza Aslam Baig discussed bilateral co-operation with high-ranking Saudi military officials on Saturday, the official Saudi Press Agency reported.

It said Aslam Baig, who is in the kingdom at the invitation of the Land Forces Commander Staff General Abdul Rahman Al Rashid, was received by the Air Defence Force Commander Staff Gen Khalid Bin Sultan. (AP)

**Early Spanish elections:** Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez will dissolve Parliament next week and call early elections to coincide with the seventh anniversary of this Socialist Party's landslide victory, Spain's leading newspaper said on Saturday.

Citing unidentified government sources, the independent El País said the Socialist leader would dissolve Parliament next Saturday following the government's weekly Friday cabinet meeting and elections for Oct 29 to seek an unprecedented third term for his party. (AP)

## Tight-rope walker

A tight-rope walker made an unprecedented high-wire crossing 100 metres (330 feet) above the river Seine on Saturday from the right bank to the Eiffel Tower.

Philippe Petit, who said he had waited 15 years for the opportunity, took 45 minutes to traverse the 700-metre (2,300-foot) wire over the murky waters.

The 40-year-old Frenchman, who lives in New York, fought to maintain his balance against a stiff breeze. (See Page 2)

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be met with Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara Wednesday. He drove to Beirut Thursday and met for two days with Muslim and Christian leaders, including Gen. Michel Aoun, commander of Christian Army units with whom Syria has refused to negotiate a peace settlement.

The spokesman said two people were killed and nine wounded in the clashes. Scores of shells and rockets crashed in residential neighbourhoods on both sides of Beirut's dividing Green Line.

The new casualties brought the overall toll to 706 killed and 2,231 wounded since fighting broke out March 8 between the traditionally pro-Western Christians and Syrian troops.

The spokesman noted that the exchanges were "limited to two areas, which reflects the noticeable decrease in the intensity and scope of the shelling duels" since Soviet envoy Giarmy Tarasov began his mission on Wednesday.

It was Moscow's first direct mediation in Lebanon since the civil war broke out April 1975.

Tarasov visited Syria, Moscow's chief Arab ally, where

mittee announced on July 28 that it was suspending a mediation bid it had launched in May, blaming the lack of progress on Damascus.

That led to sharp deterioration in the security situation, during which Syria and its allies tried at least once to penetrate into the besieged Christian heartland.

After his meeting with Aoun yesterday, Tarasov said the Soviet Union "strongly believes there are no military solutions to the Lebanese problems."

Aoun, a spokesman said, expressed to Tarasov his "full readiness to co-operate with the Soviet effort."

The spokesman said Tarasov was working on "a formula... for stabilizing the security situation and lifting the blockade" imposed by Syria and its allies on the 310-square-mile (800-square-kilometre) Christian enclave.

The Soviet Union is seeking to stabilize the shaky ceasefire and revive Arab League mediation, Selim Hoss, head of the Syrian-backed government in Muslim sector, said today.

"The Soviet Union is not trying to monopolise the

solution as many others who have sponsored abortive initiatives in the past," Hoss said.

"The Soviet endeavour is aimed at achieving a limited goal which is to enable the Arab League committee to resume its work and therefore clear the road for an Arab solution," Hoss said.

US President George Bush discussed the crisis in Lebanon with French President Francois Mitterrand by telephone today, the White House announced.

"The two presidents commented on the UN ceasefire in Lebanon and agreed to keep the UN spotlight on the problem," the White House said.

Druze leader Walid Jumblatt today encouraged Pope John Paul II to visit not only the Christian sectors of war-torn Lebanon but Muslim regions as well to see the reality of the country's problems.

■ Kuwait's acting Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed today said Kuwait had received and studied the report prepared by the Arab League committee on Lebanon.

## Soviets stabilise Lebanon ceasefire

BEIRUT, Aug 26. (Agencies): Christian Army units and Syrian troops fought a four-hour rocket and artillery duel yesterday, but a police spokesman said hostilities have diminished noticeably since Moscow launched its peace mission earlier this week.

The spokesman said two people were killed and nine wounded in the clashes. Scores of shells and rockets crashed in residential neighbourhoods on both sides of Beirut's dividing Green Line.

The new casualties brought the overall toll to 706 killed and 2,231 wounded since fighting broke out March 8 between the traditionally pro-Western Christians and Syrian troops.

The spokesman noted that the exchanges were "limited to two areas, which reflects the noticeable decrease in the intensity and scope of the shelling duels" since Soviet envoy Giarmy Tarasov began his mission on Wednesday.

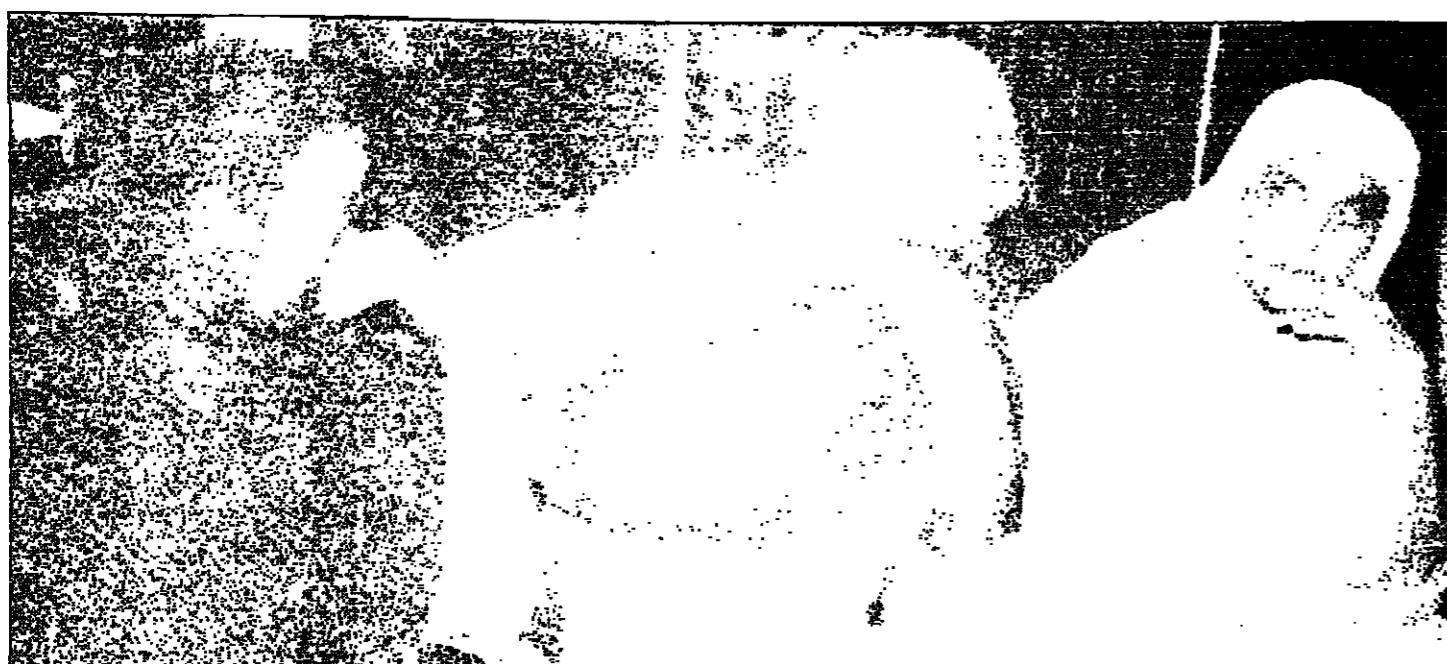
It was Moscow's first direct mediation in Lebanon since the civil war broke out April 1975.

Tarasov visited Syria, Moscow's chief Arab ally, where

**Kuwait French School**  
Surrah, Al Bin Abi Taleb Street  
Patronized by the College de Leman, Geneva Switzerland

Encouraging Fees for the year

## INTERNATIONAL



Some women cry as they wait at Islamabad airport for news about relatives on board the PIA Fokker. (Reuter wirephoto)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

**Approval urged:** A Wisconsin company asked a US Food and Drug Administration panel for approval to market a female condom that would protect women from the AIDS virus, but the panel is proposing that the device first be tested as a contraceptive.

In a hearing before the FDA panel on medical devices, Mary Anne Leeper of Wisconsin Pharmacal Co. said the device developed by the company is the only one that women can control themselves to protect against the AIDS virus and other sexually transmitted diseases.

The device displayed by Leeper resembled a cock made of polyurethane, a tough, clear, flexible plastic. There are soft, flexible rings at both ends. (AP)

**Paper appeals:** A Moscow newspaper appealed to its readers today to help police find French millionaire art dealer of Armenian origin who disappeared last month from his hotel.

Moskovsky Komsomolets published a small black-and-white photograph of the man, Garabed Basmajian, with personal details and a description of what he was wearing when he was last seen on July 29.

It gave a Moscow telephone number to call for anyone with news of him.

Basmajian arrived in Moscow on July 21 for a visit at the invitation of the Soviet Ministry of Culture. Eight days later he walked out of the Rossiya Hotel near Red Square and did not return. (Reuters)

**Listeria scare:** The listeria poisoning scare in the UK was extended to margarine today following the disclosure last night that the organism caused the death of an 88-year-old Scottish woman.

This morning, supermarkets were taking tubs of margarine from their shelves. The 250g tubs being withdrawn are sold under five brand names.

The announcement came a day after one in ten samples of pate tested were found to be infected.

The chief medical officer, Sir Donald Acheson, warned vulnerable groups, including the elderly, pregnant women and young children to avoid pate.

The listeria culture grown from the margarine matched the culture of the fatal bug. (KUNA)

**Public calls:** The murder of a black African worker by armed robbers in south Italy has sparked public calls on

the Italian government to combat bigotry and racial discrimination against thousands of Arab and African workers in Italy.

Workers unions, political organisations and members of the public have urged the Italian government to enact measures to combat public expression of hatred against Arab and African immigrant workers, most of whom had entered the country on a tourist visa.

Last week hooded gunmen opened fire on more than 20 Arab, South African and Senegalese workers, killing Jerry Maslaw, a political refugee from South Africa.

The three armed robbers, still at large, escaped with the hard-won money of the poor workers. (KUNA)

**False alarm:** A British Airways jumbo jet carrying 291 passengers made an emergency landing in Montreal, Canada, after a fire alert, it was reported here today.

Flight BA298 had taken off from Chicago, bound for London's Heathrow airport, when a warning light on the flight deck indicated a fire in the cargo hold.

"The captain decided to divert to the nearest available airport, which happened to be Montreal as a natural precaution," a BA spokesman said.

"It turned out there was no fire and the warning light had gone on because of an electrical fault," he added. (KUNA)

**Obesity report:** Fat children are likely to grow up to be obese and their life expectancy can be reduced prematurely by 10 years, according to a report published here today.

Doctors said the evidence underlined an urgent need for dietary and health education to prevent them from developing heart disease.

The study, published in the British medical journal, the Lancet, was begun 40 years ago, and has followed more than 500 people who were treated for childhood obesity.

The results showed that 55 of them died at an average age of 63 years for men and 68 for women — two-thirds more deaths than would be expected to occur in the same age groups in the general population.

The Times newspaper, which reproduced the research, said the most common causes of death were cardiovascular diseases, which have long been known to be linked with obesity.

## St Kitts is awash with Indian money

### First Trust's existence proved

THE Arab Times has stirred up a hornet's nest in Indian politics by first publishing a report on Aug 20 that Indian opposition leader V.P. Singh's son Ajeya Singh allegedly held a foreign account at the First Trust Corporation Limited in St Kitts. The daily Telegraph of Calcutta afterwards interviewed the former managing director of the First Trust Corporation to check the authenticity of our report. We are publishing the text of the story which appeared in the Telegraph on Aug 24.

There was more than one Indian account with The First Trust Corporation Limited, George Maclean, the former managing director of the company told The Telegraph in a tape-recorded interview.

"How many Indian accounts would you have?" he was asked. "We had a number of them," he replied.

He also confirmed that the company was very much in existence at the time when Ajeya Singh, son of V.P. Singh, was alleged to have a numbered account (Number 29479) in the corporation. This account was reported to have been created on Sept 16, 1986, and has the signatures of both Ajeya Singh and George Maclean. A total of \$21 million was deposited — starting from Sept 16, 1986, on which day \$2 million was put into the account. The account was closed on Feb 13, 1988.

When questioned directly about whether Ajeya Singh's Account Number 29479 was genuine or not, George Maclean chose to say he could neither confirm nor deny this, adding pointedly that if he revealed anything about the account, he would be liable to suffer a five-year jail sentence under St Kitts' laws.

But he said enough to reach a reasonable interpretation that the account did exist. This is the exact transcript of the tape-recorded conversation:

Q: Would you deny that this account (Number 29479) existed at all Mr Maclean?

A: Frankly, I would not confirm it nor would I deny it because in St Kitts it's subject to a five-year jail sentence if I said anything about any account.

Q: Oh, I see. So you would not like to say anything on the subject at all?

A: Well, what I would say is "No comment." That I can't confirm it and I can't deny it.

Later in the course of the recorded interview, Maclean stressed that accounts in St Kitts were totally confidential. "We just can't disclose anything concerning our customers."

Significantly, Maclean said towards the end of the conversation: "I am sorry I can't be of more help to you, but you have to understand the situation."

The correspondent then asked:

Q: Should we read anything into the fact that you cannot deny this account exists?

A: That's correct.

Maclean also revealed that while the company had been closed down later, it certainly existed during the period when this account was reported to be live. And the reason why it had closed was that it was in the process of being amalgamated into another company. (Maclean also confirmed that any statement of deposits and withdrawals from the account would be exactly as the ones in the photostats reproduced by The Telegraph. The photostats show the statement of deposits and withdrawals in Account No. 29479 in the name of Ajeya Singh, with Vishwanath Pratap Singh named as beneficiary in a separate agreement signed on Sept 16, 1986, at Basseterre.)

When these documents printed below reached us (The Telegraph) two things were immediately obvious: first, that their authenticity would be denied by V.P. Singh; and second, that those who had obtained them were motivated against him. Just as, in fact, those who provided the Bofors documents to the Hindu were motivated against Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The question, clearly, was not of the motivation — but the more important one: were these documents authentic or not?

Two questions followed. First: Did such a company exist at all? Second: Was this the normal form of statement of accounts given to customers?

A word is necessary to explain the nature of these companies. Readers used to normal banks might wonder at their style of functioning. But these are not banks in that sense. These are small, easily set up, and far more easily broken down, companies whose primary utility is that they hold your money, earn interest (in the case of the First Trust Corporation at a rate of eight per cent adding up to \$21.8 per day per million dollars) for the period you want.

Many people with hot money use these companies, where no one asks any questions about where the money comes from or where it goes to, as conduits. Others, who want to make their money untraceable, pass their wealth through three or four such companies — and by the time it reaches the fourth address no one can be sure where it came from. This is why these companies are often known in slang as "post offices." Security is naturally the key. As Maclean says, St Kitts law imposes a five-year jail sentence on anyone disclosing the identity of an account holder. It is this factor which has made St Kitts — as a recent report in

## No sign of PIA Fokker

### Search to resume today

ISLAMABAD, Aug 26. (Agencies): Aircraft searched the icy peaks and steep valleys of the Himalayas for a second day today but found no sign of a Pakistan International Airlines plane that disappeared with 54 people aboard.

"We haven't got any indication yet of anything," said airline spokeswoman Azra Sultan. "We have flown 11 search sorties today and the search parties are still on the ground since yesterday."

Five helicopters, two Pakistan Air Force C-130 transport planes and two PIA planes searched Pakistan's rugged northern mountains until dusk today, airline officials said. They were

set to resume tomorrow.

Dozens of anxious relatives gathered at Islamabad airport where the airline and the Air Force operated a joint search command.

The propeller-driven Fokker 27 was carrying 49 passengers and five crew members when it took off early yesterday from Gilgit, a mountain resort, for Islamabad, a 175-mile (280 kilometre) flight to the south that should have taken 45 minutes.

Airline spokesmen said they believe there were at least two foreigners aboard, including American free-lance journalist Paul McGorrian, a former staff writer for the St. Petersburg (Florida) Times.

Poor weather hampered the initial search yesterday as clouds dipped below the 15,000-foot (4,500-metre) mountain peaks where the Himalayas meet the equally lofty Karakoram range.

Pilots could be another decade before the glacier, advancing at a rate of 250-300 feet (80-100m) a year, yields up the fuselage of the Boeing 707 jet, its passengers and crew, he said.

"Bit by bit, the heavier pieces are coming out," Renzo Corso, alpine rescue service chief in the northern Valle d'Aosta region of Italy, said.

Since 1963, at least 20 PIA Fokkers have been involved in accidents, five of them fatal, prompting calls for the more than 10-year-old planes to be replaced.

## Glacier reveals

COURMAYEUR, Italy, Aug 26, (UPI): The slow-moving Mont Blanc glacier has surrendered more pieces of an Air India plane jet which crashed in 1966 with 117 people aboard, an alpine official said today.

But it could be another decade before the glacier, advancing at a rate of 250-300 feet (80-100m) a year, yields up the fuselage of the Boeing 707 jet, its passengers and crew, he said.

"Bit by bit, the heavier pieces are coming out," Renzo Corso, alpine rescue service chief in the northern Valle d'Aosta region of Italy, said.

The Air India jet crashed in fog near the peak of the 13,863-foot (4,007-m) Mont Blanc on Jan 25, 1966, with 177 people aboard. Some bodies are still trapped in the frozen river of ice.

## Abdullah 'will crush' rebels

### Kashmir in turmoil

SRINAGAR, India, Aug 26, (Reuters): The chief minister of India's strife-torn Kashmir vowed today to crush a secessionist movement in the state but said he was ready to pull back from direct confrontation over press censorship.

Farooq Abdullah, speaking a few hours after security forces besieged Kashmir's largest mosque in Srinagar to flush out extremists, said the militants posed a grave threat to the state's security and its tourist-based economy.

"We must not take it sitting down or by being complacent," he said in an interview. "We must hit them now and hit them hard and not let the situation drift."

"If with these three points they will stick to it and they will take action against those who break the code, I will withdraw the bill," he said.

Abdullah said he would use the bill if journalists did not respond.

Security forces captured at least two militants in Srinagar's Jamia Masjid (mosque) yesterday along with an assault rifle and two pistols, he said.

The two suspected rebels were caught buried to their necks in a heap of sand and covered by a blanket. The weapons were also found concealed in the sand.

Thousands of police have been posted to the state in the foothills of the Himalayas since a spate of shootings and bombings hit Srinagar a year ago.

### Soviets learning riot control

NEW DELHI, Aug 26, (UPI): A Soviet delegation has concluded a visit to India to study police techniques for riot and crowd control in the wake of large scale ethnic unrest in several Soviet republics, officials said yesterday.

Police and a Soviet embassy official reported the six-member team left for Moscow yesterday after nearly a week inspecting police tactics in handling mass demonstrations.

They said the delegation from the Soviet Interior Ministry, which is responsible for police and internal security, received detailed reports from the government department that develops strategies and samples of riot control equipment.

"They wanted to know about the problems of policing in a democratic setup," one officer told the Indian Express, which also reported the Soviets were curious about Indian crime detection and interrogation techniques.

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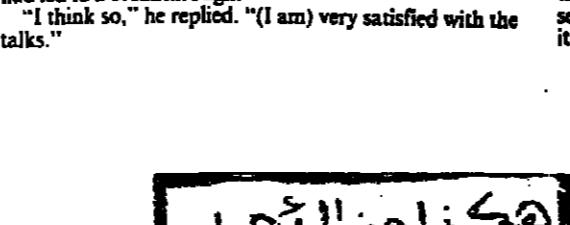
## Thaw in India-Nepal ties after Rao visit

KATHMANDU, Aug 26. (AP): Indian External Affairs Minister PV Narasimha Rao departed after talks with Nepalese leaders, declaring a diplomatic stalemate between the two countries had ended.

Relations between India and Nepal soured in March after New Delhi refused to renew trade and transit treaties with the landlocked Himalayan kingdom. The move caused shortages of gasoline, medicines and other goods in Nepal.

Rao was asked by reporters at Kathmandu airport if his visit, the first by an Indian cabinet minister since March, had led to a breakthrough.

"I think so," he replied. "(I am) very satisfied with the talks."



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## INTERNATIONAL

**US actor's family infected with AIDS****'Starsky and Hutch' star tells tragic story**

LOS ANGELES, Aug 26, (AP): The wife and son of Paul Michael Glaser, star of the US television show "Starsky and Hutch," are infected with the virus that causes AIDS, and the couple's daughter has already died from the disease.

Although Elizabeth Glaser and her 5-year-old son have not developed AIDS, the couple's first child, daughter Ariel, died of AIDS complications last year at age 1.

Glaser is the only family member not infected.

"Lesser men would have walked," said Mrs Glaser, who has taken the anti-AIDS drug AZT for the past 18 months. "He never made us feel we were anything but a family."

Glaser said the family had no choice. "We have grown up a hell of a lot. It was either grow up or perish," he said.

The Glasers have strived to keep their family life as normal as possible, but they

anticipate that will change, they told the Los Angeles Times newspaper in a story in Friday's editions.

They said they decided to go public with their pain after they learned the National Enquirer was planning a story on them. The tabloid declined to comment.

**Begging**

"We begged them not to run the story but they said it was newsworthy," said Glaser, who is now a film director.

"Our fear is the greatest for our son," Mrs Glaser said. "It is our right to tell him when he is strong enough and old enough to handle the information. Now, we may not have that choice."

Glaser, who played the streetwise plain-clothes detective Dave Starsky in the police action series that ran from September 1975 to August 1979, acknowledged it is not easy for him to talk about the tragedy he faced.

"This has to be a story about how we rise

above our fears, how we all have to be stronger than we ever thought we could be," he said.

Glaser's former co-star David Soul said he had been unaware of the family's situation and encouraged the public to support the Glasers by helping to fight the deadly disease.

"I have been deeply saddened to learn of the events of these past several years and of the profound loss which Paul and Elizabeth have suffered," Soul said. "But I am also inspired by the strength of their commitment to each other and to their children."

The family's nightmare began in 1981 when Mrs Glaser contracted HIV after receiving seven pints of blood.

She had been rushed to a hospital for the transfusions when she began hemorrhaging in her ninth month of carrying Ariel.

Four years later, her daughter was hospitalized with a stubborn illness. Tests con-

firmed it was AIDS.

The Glasers said Ariel contracted the virus from her mother through eight months of breastfeeding. The boy contracted it in the womb.

**Death**

After her daughter's death last year, Mrs Glaser, former exhibit director for the local children's museum, turned much of her attention to raising money for paediatric AIDS research. She has collected more than \$3 million.

Her efforts have drawn the support of many celebrities and politicians including former President Ronald Reagan and his wife, Nancy.

As of Aug 1, AIDS had been diagnosed in 102,621 Americans, of whom more than half, or 59,391, have died, according to the National Centre for Disease Control. No one is known to have recovered from AIDS.

**PEOPLE AND PLACES**

STROUDSBURG, Pennsylvania: A 10-year-old boy pleaded innocent on Friday to adult charges of criminal homicide in the March shooting of a 7-year-old girl who was riding a motorcycle in a lot adjacent to his home.

Cameron Kocher was 9 years old when, police said, he loaded his father's .25-calibre rifle, pointed it out his parent's bedroom window and shot Jessica Ann Czer of Gilbert in the back. He has been free on \$50,000 bail since he was charged with the crime.

Cameron stood silently next to his attorney as Monroe County Judge Ronald E. Vican, addressing the boy as "Mr Kocher," explained the charges of criminal homicide, aggravated assault and reckless endangerment.

Jessica was riding on the back of a snowmobile March 6 in Kresgeville with her friend and Cameron's next-door neighbour, Shamon Ratti, 13, when she was shot.

Cameron was arrested two days later after police found the rifle with a telescopic sight, a cut on the boy's forehead and blood spattered in the room. Cameron said the rifle cut him when its recoil jammed the scope's eyepiece into his face.

Assistant District Attorney Mark Pazzanese said in an interview he has ruled out seeking the death penalty. He said if the boy is convicted, punishment could range from probation in conjunction with psychiatric treatment, to life imprisonment.

\* \* \*

BALTIMORE: A pregnant woman has survived two liver transplants in four days, undergoing a procedure that doctors said on Friday may have been done only once before in the United States.

Surgeons transplanted a liver in Marsha Maynor, 21, on July 27 at Johns Hopkins Hospital, but the procedure was unsuccessful. A second transplant was performed three days later.

Maynor was more than five months pregnant at the time of the operation. Her liver had been destroyed by a hepatitis-B infection.

Maynor is in good condition and has made an excellent recovery, her doctors said on Friday.

The fetus is considered in good but guarded condition. Doctors do not know how anti-rejection drugs will affect the health of the fetus. (UPI)

\* \* \*

NEW YORK: John F. Kennedy Jr.'s first week as a prosecutor ended on Friday with an acquittal — his on a charge of driving an uninsured vehicle, the State Department of Motor Vehicles said.

Kennedy's attorney Richard A. Halloran brought evidence to the DMV office in Queens that his client's car was insured when police ticketed the presidential son on July 9, said DMV spokesman Tom Apple.

The charge was then dismissed, although DMV has six months to verify the Kennedy documents, Apple said. The uninsured vehicle charge was the most serious of four against Kennedy; he could have lost his license for one year if convicted.

(AP)

\* \* \*

LANDOVER, Maryland: A German recruit fatally shot in what was first characterized as an execution-style slaying by angry drug dealers actually died of a self-inflicted wound, police said on Friday.

Dorina Brown, 19, was drinking and playing Russian Roulette with two other members of the crime-fighting organization when he placed the handgun to his temple and pulled the trigger, said Prince George's county police spokesman Robert Phillips.

The two other members left the fatally wounded Brown and fled the scene, later telling police they ran because they were "frightened and afraid," Phillips said. (UPI)

\* \* \*

DUNCAN, South Carolina: Three teenagers have been charged with defacing the US flag, raising constitutional questions in light of the recent Supreme Court ruling on flag-burning, an American Civil Liberties Union official said.

The charge stems from a vandalism spree on Wednesday at Byrnes High School in which two flags were burned, paint was splashed on floors, books were scattered and fire extinguishers sprayed.

Three 13-year-old boys, students at another school, were charged on Thursday in family court with defacing the flag, entering without breaking, grand larceny and arson. (AP)

\* \* \*

TINO, a six-year-old budgerigar, undergoes surgery in Oslo to remove excess fat that had made him so overweight he could barely hop. The budgerigar can now fly. The alternative would have been to put him on a strict diet and exercise programme.

veterinary surgeon Espen Odberg said. (Reuter wirephoto)

\* \* \*

Making Tino tiny

Tino, a six-year-old budgerigar, undergoes surgery in Oslo to remove excess fat that had made him so overweight he could barely hop. The budgerigar can now fly. The alternative would have been to put him on a strict diet and exercise programme.

veterinary surgeon Espen Odberg said. (Reuter wirephoto)

\* \* \*

US Congressman says prostitute lying

NEWTON, Mass., Aug 26, (Agencies): Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., confirmed that a male prostitute he hired as a personal aide used his apartment to run a sex-for-money business, but insisted yesterday he was unaware of the activity and fired the man when he learned about it.

"The notion I knew what was going on was false," the Massachusetts Democrat told a crowded news conference televised live in Boston. "The notion he was procuring other partners for me — sex partners — is an absolute lie."

Frank, 49, referred to a Washington Times story in which a 26-year-old man identified as "Greg Davis" talked of his ties with Frank from 1985 to 1987. Frank told the news conference the man's real name was Stephen Gobie

and that he hired him in hopes he could help him return to a normal life.

Frank, an acknowledged homosexual, said he was "confused" by the male prostitute. He said he met Gobie through an escort service about three years ago and paid to have sex with him.

Frank said he later hired Gobie as a personal aide, using only personal funds, because he wanted to help rehabilitate him.

The Washington Times newspaper reported that the male prostitute provided homosexual and bisexual prostitution services from Frank's apartment from late-1985 through mid-1987.



**Championship golf**

Double amputee Tom Quinn, of East Quogue, New York, watches his putt head for the cup on the 16th green at the Singing Hills Country Club Thursday in the final round of the 41st Annual Endolite /NAGA

Amputee Golf Championship in San Diego Over 140 amputee golfers from around the world competed in the championship. (Reuter wirephoto)

**Which way is up?**

Modern art can be confusing at times. This 1916 Juan Gris painting bought by Madrid's Modern Art Museum has been hanging upside down since 1984 when the purchase was made through a well-known art gallery. Once the mistake was spotted,

the painting was hanged right side up. Picture shows the painting hanging upside down. (Reuter wirephoto)

**Man says he killed Newton****Self-defence claimed**

OAKLAND, California, Aug 26, (AP): A man described by police as a drug dealer has been arrested in connection with the murder of Huey P. Newton, but claimed self-defence in killing the Black Panther founder, police said yesterday.

Tyrone Robinson, 25, of Oakland was arrested on a weapons charge Tuesday, hours after Newton's early morning slaying on a west Oakland sidewalk, police said.

Police said last night that Robinson had confessed to killing Newton, a leader of the militant Black Panthers Party in the 1960s.

Investigators believe they recovered the 9mm pistol used in Newton's killing, police said, but ballistics tests are still pending.

Robinson "considered the murder a means to advance" in the Black Guerrilla Family, a narcotics distribution gang, Sgt Dan Mercado said at a news conference last evening at the Oakland Hall of Justice.

"He wanted to be high-mucky-muck," Mercado said earlier in an interview.

The Black Guerrilla Family is a prison-based gang that operates in the state's maximum-security prisons, including San Quentin, where Newton served time, authorities said.

Robinson, currently on parole for a robbery conviction, confessed to the killing early yesterday and is scheduled for arraignment later in the day.

**Son starved to death****Parents on trial**

WILKES-BARRE, Pennsylvania, Aug 26, (AP): A couple accused of letting their teen-age son starve to death feared seeking outside aid because authorities did not help years earlier after their children were abused, a defense attorney said yesterday.

The evidence will show the entire family knew what will happen if they did not eat... that a person without food for a long time will die," public defender Al Flora said in opening arguments in the third-degree murder case.

But Larry and Leona Cottam were too scared to turn to outsiders for food because they were afraid the children would be taken from them and hurt, Flora said.

Erie Cottam, 14, died in January and his parents and 12-year-old sister, Laura, were hospitalized after a six-week fast. The family went without food despite having \$3,775 they said was a gift belonging to God, police said.

Assistant district attorney Anne Cianflone told the jury that the family wanted to eat. She said Erie had tried to stay alive by eating roots from the yard and hiding a frying pan and oil in his bedroom.

Mrs Cottam went quietly throughout opening arguments, while her husband, a former minister in the Seventh Day Adventist Church, sat stoically beside her.

If convicted of the third-degree murder charge, the Cottams each face a maximum 20-year prison term.

Devita told jurors that even though Mrs Helmsley intensely disliked Licari, who was her husband's chief financial officer, they were still part of a conspiracy to defraud the Internal Revenue Service.

Assistant US Attorney James Devita made the comparison in his rebuttal to more than 12 hours of summations by the three defence attorneys.

He urged the US District Court jury to ignore the defence arguments by using their common sense and focusing on the evidence.

After Devita's rebuttal, the jury was to receive instructions from US District Judge John Walker Jr., and expected to begin deliberations this morning.

Mrs Helmsley, 69, has been on trial for eight weeks on charges she evaded \$1.2 million in US taxes by charging personal expenses, including renovations at her Connecticut estate, to Helmsley businesses.

Former aides Frank Turco and Joseph Licari charged with conspiring to extort payoffs and merchandise from vendors doing business with the Helmsley organisation.

During the rebuttal, Mrs Helmsley frequently glared at Devita and scribbled on a notepad.

The 41 counts against her include conspiracy to defraud the Internal Revenue Service, tax evasion, filing false returns, mail fraud and extortion conspiracy.

The extortion conspiracy charge carries a maximum 20-year prison sentence upon conviction. The other charges carry three to five-year sentences.

**Leona's trial nearly over****'Vanishing act' depicted****Going solo**

Aviator averts disaster

OAKLAND, California, Aug 26, (AP): A prosecutor said yesterday that Leona Helmsley and her two co-defendants made Mrs Helmsley's personal expenses disappear into the Helmsley hotel and real estate empire.

Assistant US Attorney James Devita made the comparison in his rebuttal to more than 12 hours of summations by the three defence attorneys.

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Mrs Helmsley's 80-year-old husband, Harry, was charged in the indictment but was severed from the trial because he was found to be mentally incompetent.

The charge stems from a vandalism spree on Wednesday at Byrnes High School in which two flags were burned, paint was splashed on floors, books were scattered and fire extinguishers sprayed.

Chug, chug, sputter, sputter... went the engine, she said.

Her Piper Saratoga fell 1,000 feet (300 metres) before the engine finally came back to life.

"I'm not sure how I did it,"

Kennard recalled. "I just kept fiddling at it. Anyway, I managed to do it."

More trouble followed, she said.

She had 297 gallons (1,120 litres) for the 16-hour flight and was saving her two main tanks, good for six hours, for the last stretch.

Kennard isn't sure what the exact problem was with the six auxiliary tanks that jammed her tiny cabin. Three more times she switched tanks. Each time, the engine died, and she frantically maneuvered to restart it.

"I didn't dare try it anymore," Kennard said.

Five and half hours from Oakdale — 30 minutes with her safety margin — she switched to her main tanks and began to relax.

# Son of drug kingpin arrested in shootout

US sending arms, copters to Colombia

BOGOTA, Aug 26. (Agencies): The Army says it has arrested the son of a reputed Medellin drug lord after a shootout and recovered secret financial documents disclosing operations of Colombia's most powerful drug cartel.

Freddy Rodriguez Gacha, son of the suspected second-ranking leader of the Medellin cartel, Gonzalo Rodriguez Gacha, was arrested along with Luis Fernando Galeano Berrios, the reputed chief accountant for the elder Rodriguez, the Army said last night.

Army officials said the arrests and the seizure of the documents came in a raid Thursday on the fortified rural bunker of the elder Rodriguez,

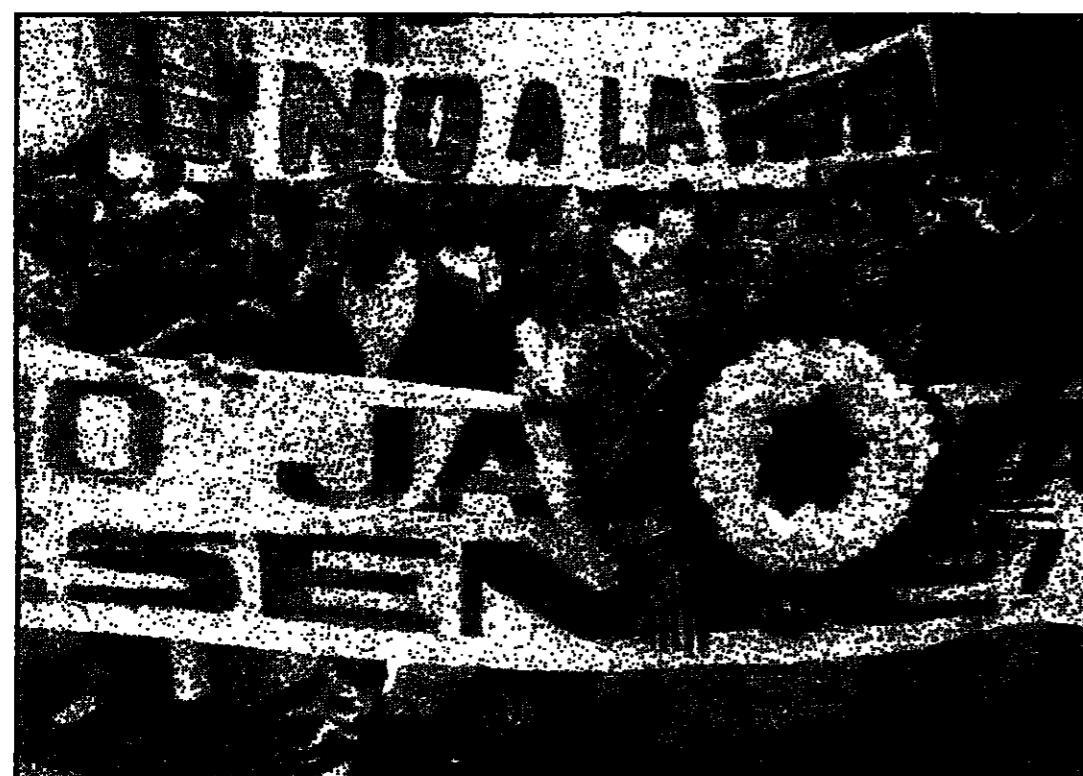
who is reputed to be the financial brain behind the Medellin drug trafficking ring.

Soldiers traded gunfire with Freddy Rodriguez, two of the elder Rodriguez's nephews and seven bodyguards during the raid Thursday on the estate in Pacho, 60 miles (96 kilometers) northwest of Bogota, officers told the Bogota daily newspaper *El Tiempo*.

President Virgilio Barco went on national television and radio last night after the arrests were disclosed and said he was "willing to go as far as is necessary" to put the drug barons out of business.



A Colombian soldier stands guard over Luis Fernando Galeano, a reputed drug trafficker and member of "The Extraditables" gang. (Reuter wirephoto)



University students march through downtown Bogota, holding a banner reading, "No to the Mafia." (Reuter wirephoto)

## Hit squads well trained

BOGOTA, Aug 26. (Reuters): Mercenaries from Britain, Israel and the United States have trained hit squads linked to Colombo's drug lords, the government intelligence agency said yesterday.

Diva Rojas, a spokeswoman for the Department of Administrative Security (DAS), told Reuters the instructors began to arrive last year and trained the squads, known as paramilitary groups, in at least three areas.

She said the instructors were retired military men and did not represent their nations' governments in any way.

Rojas said the instructors had trained youths aged between 15 and 25 in camps located in Puerto Boyaca, a Magdalena river port reported to be at the centre of the paramilitary groups, the eastern jungle state of Caqueta and near Medellin.

Rojas said she did not know if the foreign mercenaries continued operating in Colombia despite a June 9 presidential decree punishing military instructors of the squads with jail terms of up to 20 years.

She spoke after a leading Colombian newspaper said yesterday that country's cocaine cartels have contracted the services of retired US, Israeli, British, West German, Swedish, and military men from Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe, to train their hit squads.

*El Espectador*, citing local and foreign intelligence sources, said the foreign instructors had also been contracted to train the cocaine cartels in "terrorist tactics" and design electronic security systems.

It said four former members of Britain's SAS (Special Air Services) elite, who had engaged in action against the Irish Republican Army, trained a hit squad which tried to attack reputed Medellin cartel boss Pablo Escobar in a fortified house on one of his estates.

*El Espectador* said investigations carried out by Colombia, the United States and Israel had established the identity of eight instructors, of British and Israeli

### Sidelights

**Macabre altar:** In the chapel of a medieval-style castle seized from a Colombian drug baron, replete with gold ornaments and stained-glass windows, a Bible is open to a page exhorting Christians to shun vices.

Reporters who toured the 20-room castle yesterday also saw a room apparently used for pagan rituals where a crystal bowl, tigers' teeth and about 30 religious statues among plates of apples and oranges formed a macabre altar.

The Marroqui castle, perched on a hilltop 20 km (12 miles) north of Bogota, was one of about 200 properties seized this week in a government crackdown on cocaine barons.

The castle formed part of a sumptuous farm of 80 hectares (200 acres) belonging to Camilo Zepa Vasquez, who an army spokesman said had links with the Medellin cocaine cartel.

"This one did not belong to a very rich drug trafficker, but, for a change, one with taste," said an army official who gave reporters a guided tour.

Eighteen people were employed to tend the grounds and care for the 50 thoroughbred horses and the 100 swans gently gliding on a small lake.

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**Plead innocent:** A US drug agent and his brother pleaded innocent to cocaine trafficking charges yesterday and a US magistrate said she would decide Monday whether either man should be freed on bail.

Prosecutor Thomas Burrows asked US magistrate Patti Saris to hold Edward O'Brien and his brother John without bail.

Defense lawyers recommended that Edward O'Brien be released with an electronic bracelet that would let authorities check his whereabouts and that John O'Brien be freed on bail.

"I do believe there is a serious risk of flight," Saris said, but added that she was intrigued by the bracelet idea.

Edward O'Brien, who formerly ran the DEA office in Springfield, Massachusetts, and John O'Brien were each indicted Thursday on five counts of cocaine trafficking. Edward O'Brien, 44, has been placed on administrative leave pending the outcome of his case.

O'Brien, a former expert in government "sting" operations, was arrested by undercover officers Aug 14 at Boston's Logan International Airport while allegedly delivering suitcases filled with 62 pounds (28 kilograms) of cocaine.

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**Drug crackdown:** Florida's second sweep of drug users and dealers has resulted in more than 1,400 arrests, authorities said.

"The idea is to just get as much crack off the street as we can, and to once again send a message to people that are buying and selling crack that it's not going to be tolerated," Jim Lilejeld, spokesman for the Broward county sheriff's office, said yesterday.

By late last night, police had confiscated 6,683 crack cocaine rocks, 2.6 pounds (1.1 kilograms) of cocaine powder, 10.44 pounds (4.7 kilograms) of marijuana, 52 firearms, 209 vehicles and \$54,667 in cash.

**Nationality:** The alleged presence of Israeli advisers training the forces of drug cartels has grown into a major controversy in Israel.

Israeli police have sought Colombian and US help in checking charges first made by the US television network NBC that Israeli and South African instructors worked for cocaine

tycoons by training hit squads.

Reports that drug lords spare no expense in hiring mercenaries from Israel, Britain and South Africa to protect their unholy trade come as no surprise in Colombia's cocaine capital.

An Israeli Army reservist yesterday admitted giving military training to Colombians



### Hashish floating

Dutch police were searching for floating hashish after more than two thousand kilogrammes of the narcotic washed up on beaches near Amsterdam a police spokesman said.

According to a police spokesman, an early morning runner reported finding 15 kilogrammes of hashish Thursday morning in Haamstede, on the North Sea coast, about 110 km (70 miles) southwest of the capital Amsterdam.

"It was packed in 30 kg lots in jute coffee bags with English writing on them," police spokesman Ton Muller

said. He refused to disclose what was written on the bags or to estimate the value of the find.

He said police and customs vessels and aircraft continued to search coastal areas to find any more of the substance and added police officers would be posted on beaches for the next tidal cycle to gather any more jettisoned bags.

Picture shows young bathers pull a pack of the drug ashore. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Europe braces up for a fight

### Crack poses a threat

LONDON, Aug 26. (AP): Crack cocaine busts in Western Europe amount to only a few ounces a year, a minuscule amount compared to the United States, but authorities fear their problems are just beginning.

"Crack is the spectre I see hanging over Europe," British Home Secretary Douglas Hurd told delegates of the 23-nation Council of Europe, invited to London in May to discuss drug abuse.

"Our job must be to work together, urgently, to ensure that the United States experience is not repeated here," he said.

Britain is the only European country already battling a crack problem. But vigilance is being stepped up because of an enormous increase in European imports of crack's parent drug, cocaine.

Agents of the US Drug Enforcement Agency have held a workshop to teach Italian authorities how to spot "il crack," and the drug is expected to be high on the agenda for discussion at two European drug conferences.

Crack, the cheap, smokeable form of cocaine, gives an instant and intense "high" as it goes directly to the brain. The drug unusually wears off in minutes and can leave a lingering, deep depression.

While authorities are concerned by it, they also disagree to some extent over the threat crack poses to Western Europe.

Officials in some countries predict they won't even have a problem. But others envision trouble on a scale of that in the United States, where crime and drug abuse rates are reported higher in some communities where crack use is growing.

Spain, Sweden and Italy say they haven't seized any crack. West German police have seized so little so they don't keep figures. The Swiss confiscated two grams (.07 ounces) in 1988.

"The general rule is that Europe is four to six years behind the United States," says Gerhard Neurohr of Interpol, the Paris-based international police agency. "Of course, every rule has its exceptions."

Nowhere is the debate more heated than in Britain, which had 31 crack seizures in the first six months of 1989, and 27 in the same period last year.

British authorities say they seized 102 grams (3.6

ounces) between January 1987 and June 1989, 68 grams (2.4 ounces) of it in the first half of this year.

"Although the number of seizures is still small, they have been quite widespread, with crack found in many of our major cities," Hurd told another privately sponsored anti-drug conference in July.

Problem users have appeared in the last 15 months in south London, said Steve Tippell, who heads a counselling and crisis centre there and is touring US cities to study their response to the crack epidemic.

Because of the high cost of the drug in south London, he said, most users in the capital make their own crack, which is easily converted from cocaine. A crack "rock," which provides two ready-made sticks, costs £20 to £25 (\$30-\$40), about double the US price.

Interpol says crack seizures in Europe have totalled 600 grams (22 ounces) since 1986, and British drug experts say that might not include small amounts.

Cocaine seizures, on the other hand, rose from 345 pounds (155 kg) in 1978 to almost six tons (6,000 kg) last year in Europe, exceeding the heroin haul for the first time, according to Interpol.

Neurohr said the high cost of crack, coupled with a different mentality toward cocaine, were reasons Europe may not be infiltrated by crack as heavily as the United States.

In the States, crack is a cheap drug for social underdogs, he said. "In Europe, social underdogs drink alcohol or shoot heroin or take amphetamines."

"We were caught napping when heroin first arrived," says Hans Lundberg, head of the Narcotics Bureau at Sweden's Ministry for Social Affairs. "The government can't afford to make that same mistake again."

Britain is emphasizing education and treatment rather than all-out attempts to stop supplies, an approach he said is derived from studying mistakes committed in the United States.

"The Americans are quite clear that if they would have their time over again, they would have given more emphasis to prevention work," Hurd said.

# Angry Papa won't testify

ATHENS, Aug 26. (AP): Former premier Andreas Papandreou refused yesterday to testify before a parliamentary committee investigating his alleged involvement in a major financial scandal that led to his fall from power.

Instead, Papandreou sent a note to the committee questioning its legality. He referred members to a memorandum he submitted to an earlier commission of inquiry into the scandal for modus when he was premier.

Parliament voted in July to authorize the investigation of Papandreou and four of his former ministers in connection with the \$210 million Bank of Crete embezzlement scandal.

Papandreou's Panhellenic Socialist Movement (PASOK) lost the national elections in June amid allegations that he and former ministers had authorised the activities of the bank's owner and chairman George Kostolas, or had taken bribes from him.

A government formed by the conservative New Democracy Party and the communist-led coalition of the Left and Progress on July 2 vowed to cleanup of political life before holding new elections.

A Boston magistrate ruled the week that Kostolas should be extradited to Greece from the United States where he fled last November.

While fighting extradition, Kostolas claimed in several interviews that Papandreou had blackmailed him into embezzling the bank for the benefit of his party. Papandreou denies the allegations.

In his message yesterday, Papandreou wrote: "I will not go into the legality of the proposal for an investigation and the procedures of the committee, nor into the interests which they undoubtedly serve."

He attached a memorandum which he sent in February to the minister of justice, which set up to probe the Bank of Crete scandal. That committee was disbanded prior to the elections before submitting a report.

Papandreou admitted in the memorandum that he had met three times with Kostolas, at the latter's request, but that he had moved swiftly to order an investigation into the banker's illegal activities when he was informed of them.

Papandreou and his party have claimed since the Kostolas scandal broke last October that the scandal was being exploited by their political enemies.

## Envoy's eligibility disputed

WASHINGTON, Aug 26. (Reuters): Top job, comfortable climate, good wine, friendly neighbours, nice housing — and only presidential political friends need apply.

The union representing professional US diplomats said yesterday it will seek the State Department next week to demand the release of reports used to justify President George Bush's nominations of political friends to serve as ambassadors.

The American Foreign Service Association (AFSA) plans to charge that Secretary of State James Baker has illegally held confidential competency reports to conceal their lack of qualifications.

"They go to comfortable places where the climate is good, the people are friendly, the wine is good and the housing is good," an AFSA spokesman said. "They go to Rome, London, Scandinavian countries, very few end up in Africa."

The spokesman said ambassadors, whether career diplomats or political appointees, should know the country and speak its working language. They should be interested in international affairs and should be esteemed in their field of work.

The United States has a high percentage of political appointees in ambassadorial appointments.

The administration has said its goal is one-third political appointments.

Senator Paul Sarbanes, a Maryland Democrat, plans to challenge in the full Senate the confirmation of three appointees whose qualifications he said were essentially political. Joseph Zarnas as ambassador to Spain, Melvin Seabolt to Australia, and Della Newmark to New Zealand.

## Contra demobilisation to begin on Sept 6

UNITED NATIONS, Aug 26. (AP): The disbanding and resettlement of the US-supported Contra rebels who fought Nicaragua's leftist government for eight years will begin Sept 6, officials announced yesterday.

The Secretary-General of the Organisation of American States, Joao Clemente Baena Soares of Brazil, and UN Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar agreed at a meeting yesterday to begin the process of

the international support and verification committee on that date, a UN statement said.

Perez de Cuellar also met with Miguel D'Escoto, the Nicaraguan foreign minister, about repatriating the 12,000 Contras now camped in Honduras with their families.

When he learned the demobilisation date had been set, D'Escoto said: "That is very good news, we have wanted that for a very long time."

The Tela Declaration signed Aug 7 by the presidents of Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica and Guatemala called for the Contras to be disbanded or repatriated or resettled in other countries over a three-month period ending in September.

El Salvador now wants its Central American neighbours to focus their attention on disbanding leftist rebels fighting its government.

كتاب من المجهول

## INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, SUNDAY, AUGUST 27, 1989

# SE Asian legislators want foreign bases out

MANILA, Aug. 26. (AP) Southeast Asian lawmakers called today for the dismantling of all foreign military bases in the region, but they also said neutrality cannot assure peace without superpower co-operation.

Delegates to the six-day meeting of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' inter-parliamentary organisa-

tion made the statement in a communiqué issued at the close of the meeting. The communiqué said closure of foreign bases and the removal of nuclear weapons "will greatly facilitate the early realisation of the establishment of the zone of peace, freedom and neutrality and Southeast Asian nuclear weapons-free zone."

It did not give a date for when such bases should be dismantled or directly mention the Philippines, which hosts six US-run military installations.

Aside from the Philippines, the non-communist Asian association is composed of Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

The communiqué said association

members must "at the appropriate time" consult the United States, the Soviet Union, China, Japan, India and other world powers about the region's bid to establish a neutrality zone and gain their recognition and support.

"Without (their) recognition, without the guarantees, peace and freedom remains elusive as today," Peter Sung,

Singapore's minister of state for foreign affairs and national development, told reporters.

In the Philippines, the United States maintains Clark Air Base, the Subic Bay Naval Base and four smaller installations under an agreement that expires in September 1991.

Talks are expected to begin late this

year on extending the agreement.

President Corazon Aquino refuses to say whether she supports a new agreement, which must be approved by two-thirds of the 23-member senate.

On Thursday, 12 senators called for closing the bases in 1991, showing the Aquino administration lacks the votes for ratification.



**Moriyama speaks**  
Mayumi Moriyama speaks to reporters at Prime Minister's official residence in Tokyo after she was appointed as Chief Cabinet Secretary. Moriyama succeeds Tokuo Yamashita who resigned earlier because of a sexual liaison (Reuter wirephoto)

## Akihito's son 'to wed next year'

TOKYO, Aug. 26. (AP) Japanese news media reported today that arrangements were being made to clear the way for the wedding of Emperor Akihito's second son, possibly as early as next year.

But palace and government officials wouldn't comment on the reports that 23-year-old Prince Aya, second in line to the throne, has received his parents' approval to marry a 22-year-old graduate student he has been dating for the past four years.

"Prince Aya to wed next spring," said a headline in Yomiuri Shimbun, Japan's leading newspaper. The story included a large colour photograph of Aya and Kiko Kawashima.

Speculation of an imminent engagement announcement was triggered by a visit to Akasaka palace in central Tokyo last night by Miss Kawashima, a student of psychology at Tokyo's Gakushuin University, and her parents.

Miss Kawashima's father, Tatsuhiko, is a

professor of economics at Gakushuin, which is Prince Aya's alma mater and where the couple met.

Kyodo News Service said chief palace official Soichi Fujimori had acknowledged he was instructed today to begin official preparations for the engagement when he met Aya's father, Emperor Akihito.

The engagement must be approved by the 10-member Imperial Council, headed by Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.



**Kim pledges**

South Korea's veteran opposition politician Kim Dae-Jung waves to a crowd of 30,000 in a rally outside Seoul today. Kim who was indicted yesterday for breaking anti-communist laws, pledged to fight President Roh Tae-Woo's regime to defend himself. (Reuter wirephoto)

### Opposition to launch campaign for reforms

## Kim under indictment

INCHON, South Korea, Aug. 26. (AP) The leader of South Korea's largest opposition party called today against his indictment in connection with a spy case, saying he would launch a campaign for democratic reforms.

Speaking in this western city, Kim Dae-Jung said his Party for Peace and Democracy would push for the "strongest possible" campaign for the reforms in pitching for support from the public, the National Assembly and the judiciary.

He said the campaign would include a petition drive starting in September to press for more democratic rights and rallies in 27 cities to denounce the "repression of dissident" by the government.

On Friday, Kim and two legislators from his party were indicted on charges of failing to inform the authorities about national assemblyman Sub Kyung-Won's secret trip to communist North Korea last year. Suh was a member of Kim's opposition party, but was expelled after his trip was made public.

Kim and the other two legislators were allowed to remain free while awaiting their trial.

National security laws forbid unauthorised travel to North Korea, which the South has defined as an enemy country since the peninsula was divided in 1945.

Kim on Friday called the indictments "tantamount to

the government of (president) Roh Tae-Woo declaring it has given up its willingness to carry out reforms toward democracy."

If convicted, Kim, party floor leader Kim Won-Ki and Rep. Lee Chul-Yong could be sentenced to prison terms of up to five years.

Speaking in this western port today, Kim Dae-Jung called the indictments an act of political persecution by a government seeking to revert to the former authoritarian practices of disgraced ex-president Chun Doo-Hwan.

"There are over 900 political prisoners in jail. This is more than were jailed at any one time under the Chun Doo-Hwan regime," Kim said, demanding their release.

Kim also charged that "tortures are practiced widely even though the constitution guarantees the rights of suspects to be assisted by counsel."

Opposition lawmakers, radical students and dissidents claim Roh has not moved fast enough in making promised economic and political reforms. The government denies the charges.

North Korea proposed today that three Red Cross delegates each from North and South Korea meet Sept. 6 to discuss humanitarian issues, the South Korean Red Cross announced.

### NEWS IN BRIEF

#### Awaiting orders

PARIS, Aug. 26. (Reuter) As Voyager 2 completes its final tour of the giant planets and heads out from Neptune to interstellar space, another unmanned probe that exceeded expectations is awaiting orders from earth for a new mission.

Like Voyager 2, launched in 1977 by the United States to explore Jupiter and Saturn, the European Space Agency's Giotto spacecraft was originally expected to be exhausted or crippled and heading for oblivion after its main assignment.

But the 600-kg (1,300-pound) craft, launched in 1985, survived intense battering by ultra-high-speed particles as it passed through the tail of Halley's Comet in March 1986 to give man his closest look at the core of the mysterious space vagabond.

Docking successful

MOSCOW, Aug. 26. (Reuter) A Soviet space cargo craft docked successfully with the orbiting station Mir yesterday to supply scientific equipment for a manned mission next month, Tass news agency reported.

Tass said the unmanned Progress-M craft, a new type of space vehicle, docked with Mir at 9:19 a.m. Moscow time (0519 GMT).

Two Soviet cosmonauts are due to lift off for Mir on September 6 for a five-month stay on the space station.

Mir has been unmanned since April, following criticism of the cost of the Soviet space programme at a time of severe economic problems in the country.

#### Soviets court

MOSCOW, Aug. 26. (AP) The Soviet Union is courting more Japanese business by dangling the possibility of access to declassified military technology, including the know-how that went into building the Soviet space shuttle, Tass said.

Yesterday, Soviet and Japanese business officials ended a three-day meeting in Moscow. The chiefs of the Japanese delegation were also received in the Kremlin by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov.

Reports from a variety of sources also indicate a power struggle is brewing over his succession, and that members of the conservative faction that led the June crackdown are trying to downplay Deng's illness to gain time to consolidate their position.

Chenault, however, said she was told Deng was in Beidaihe, a seaside resort northeast of Beijing.

#### Policeman suspended

BANGKOK, Thailand, Aug. 6. (AP) A senior Thai policeman indicted in the United States on heroin trafficking charges has been suspended from duty in Bangkok, news reports said today.

A US judicial warrant was issued July 13 for the arrest of assistant police inspector general Maj. Gen. Vech, 53.

US officials charged that he was part of a drug smuggling ring controlled by Americans of Asian descent that had smuggled heroin into the United States on at least 15 occasions.

The English-language daily The Nation quoted unidentified sources as saying a police investigating committee had found grounds to the US charges and recommended that Vech be relieved from duty.

A US soldier from the Hawaii-based 4/87th Regiment 25th Infantry Division keeps a close watch on a captured 'enemy' during Australia's largest military exercise held in peacetime involving more than 27,000 Australians and US troops.

(Reuter wirephoto)

Vech was allegedly associated with a ring based in New York and Los Angeles. US officials said in Bangkok in announcing his indictment Aug. 3.

#### Military exercise

A US soldier from the Hawaii-based 4/87th Regiment 25th Infantry Division keeps a close watch on a captured 'enemy' during Australia's largest military exercise held in peacetime involving more than 27,000 Australians and US troops.

(Reuter wirephoto)

The prime minister hoped the latest political development would not lead to by-elections in the state.

He told a meeting here yesterday, that he had advised PBS officials not to call for by-elections in Sabah as they would be waste of money and that the government had no idea when a general election would be held.

"If we hold two or three by-elections and later follow by a general election, this would mean a waste of money," he added.

#### Official visit

MOSCOW, Aug. 26. (KUNA) Indonesian President Ahmad Suharto will pay an official visit to the Soviet Union in the first half of September, it was announced here yesterday.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuri Gremikovich told a briefing Suharto's visit to Moscow is hoped to boost relations between both countries.

**Reports of torture**  
NEW YORK, Aug. 26. (AP) The US embassy in Burma says it has "credible" reports that the government is beating and torturing leaders of that country's pro-democracy movement who are in custody, a newspaper reported today.

After weeks of widely circulated but unconfirmed accounts of the torture of political prisoners, "we now have credible, first-hand reports that torture, beatings and mistreatment are commonplace and that in some instances death has resulted," US embassy cable says, according to the New York Times.

Several Western diplomats based in Rangoon, contacted by the Associated Press, estimated at least 2,000 people have been arrested in the latest sweeps. However, the martial law government on Aug. 18 announced that it had arrested 208 persons since July.

"It's certainly in the low thousands, nation-wide," one diplomat said today. "Some people are picked up, held for a while and released. Then some of these may be arrested again."

This photo of Neptune's moon Triton was taken by Voyager 2. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Triton pics stunning

Vagaries of swift information

## Instant peril

PASADENA, Aug. 25. (Agencies) Voyager 2 headed toward interstellar space today, leaving behind stunning photos of Neptune's moon Triton, where pink squares that look like anything else in the solar system.

"The range of geological forms is dazzling," astronomer-author Carl Sagan said Friday.

"We are almost certainly in a regime of volcanism involving ices, maybe exotic ices" such as water ice mixed with frozen nitrogen or methane (natural gas).

The one-ton space probe capsule completed its historic 4.43-billion-mile (7.13-billion-kilometre), 12-year tour of four planets when it skimmed 3,048 miles (4,905 kilometres) over Neptune's north pole on Thursday night, then dove past Triton, the planet's largest moon. It made its closest approach about 23,900 miles (38,460 kilometres) above the moon's surface at 0910 GMT on Friday.

During its approach to Neptune, Voyager discovered six moons besides Nereid and Triton, which were first observed from Earth. It also discovered one complete ring of debris around the planet and a partial ring, or ring arc, scientists believe will also prove to be a complete ring.

Closet

Although Voyager has passed its closest encounters with Neptune and Triton, it is continuing to send back recorded photographs taken during its closest approach.

The photographs show a cracked, frozen Triton scarred by thousand-foot-high (300-metre-high) ridges, fault lines, bowl-shaped craters, mysterious domes and dark spots ringed with white halos that so far defy explanation.

The images returned this morning revealed a world unlike any we've ever seen," Voyager project scientist Edward Stone said yesterday at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's jet propulsion laboratory.

Icy volcanic flows have been seen on Uranus' moon Ariel and some other moons, but Triton is the first place scientists have actually seen ice volcanoes, Stone said. Photographs showed at least three inactive volcanoes.

NASA geologist Joseph Boyce said one of the ice volcanoes, which look like dry lakebeds filled with smooth material, measures several hundred miles.

(kilometres) across. Some were encircled with cliffs 1,000 to 2,000 feet (300 to 600 metres) high.

The properties of exotic ices made of water, methane and nitrogen are very different from ordinary ice," said Sagan, a member of the Voyager imaging team. "That may explain the exoticness of the landforms."

Parts of the moon are frozen methane discoloured by a bombardment of radiation that produced chemical changes, Sagan said. "We've got pink snow. Think about how exotic that is."

Preliminary measurements of Triton's magnetic field suggest that it does not have a north pole and a south pole like Earth's magnetic field, but rather multiple poles, researchers said.

Robert Strom of the Voyager imaging team said the relative scarcity of craters in Triton tends to confirm speculation that Triton originated outside the solar system and became captured by Neptune's gravity, perhaps after colliding with one of its moons.

Voyager also revealed that Triton has an atmosphere and is

covered with a haze of what could be photochemical smog.

On the moon's sunlit hemisphere, frozen methane and nitrogen are very different from ordinary ice," said Sagan, a member of the Voyager imaging team. "That may explain the exoticness of the landforms."

Voyager 2 was launched in 1977 and explored Jupiter in 1979, Saturn in 1981 and Uranus in 1986.

Weary NASA scientists, many of whom spent all night at the laboratory analysing data returning from the spacecraft, gushed over the spectacular images being received.

Laurence Soderblom of the Voyager imaging team said: "Wow. What a way to leave the solar system."

The nuclear-powered spacecraft, which weighs a ton, ploughed through Neptune's magnetic field at a top speed of about 61,150 mph (98,400 km per hour) for the close encounter.

Four hours later, Voyager 2 streaked past Triton.

As Triton's orbit slowly stabilized, the moon was pushed and pulled by tidal forces, which heated it up.

## Left-handers given raw deal: psychologist

VANCOUVER, British Columbia, Aug. 26. (Reuter) A right-handed Canadian psychologist said yesterday that left-handers have shorter and far more traumatic lives than right-handers.

"The macabre conclusion to be drawn is that left-handers do not stick around as long," University of British Columbia Professor Stanley Coren said.

Coren said his study of 1,896 students found left-handers were 89 per cent more likely to suffer

likely to have a car crash, 34 per cent more likely to hurt themselves with tools and 49 per cent more susceptible to serious domestic injury.

His four-year study also found that left-handers are 25 per cent more apt to suffer work mishaps and have a 20 per cent greater chance of being injured while playing sports.

Coren added that left-handed men are at great risk when behind the wheel.

## INTERNATIONAL

100 defy security, cross to Austria

EISENSTADT, Austria, Aug 26, (AP): More than 100 East Germans fleeing their communist homeland defied beefed-up Hungarian border controls and crossed illegally into Austria overnight, according to reports today.

The Austria Press Agency cited unnamed law enforcement officials in Eisenstadt, near the Hungarian border, as saying the East Germans were again crossing into Austria individually or in small family groups. Recently, East Germans had made mass escape attempts.

Hungary announced yesterday that it had ordered squads of the armed workers' militia to border points to strengthen regular units overwhelmed by groups of as many as 500 would-be escapees at a time.

The flight of politically and economically disengaged East Germans into Austria began after Hungary tore down most of the barriers on its side of the border in May.

The move was welcomed in the West as a sign of continuing liberalisation in Hungary, one of the Soviet bloc's most reformed countries.

But it has led to Hungarian-East German tensions. East Germany rejects substantive reform.

West German officials estimate that since July about 5,000 East Germans with little chance of obtaining permission to travel to the West have used Hungary — a Warsaw Pact ally that they can visit relatively freely — as an illegal springboard to the West.

West Germany, which considers all East Germans its own citizens, has exerted pressure on Hungary as well, calling for a humane solution to the problem.

The two Germanies are also at odds over a related issue — hundreds of East Germans are refusing to leave West German diplomatic property in Budapest, Hungary, Prague, Czechoslovakia and East Berlin, unless they're guaranteed safe passage to West Germany.

Hungarian Premier Miklos Nemeth and Foreign Minister Gyula Horn discussed the East German issue yesterday in Bonn with West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. No details were made available for their talks.

Austrian radio reported today that Hungarian police and border guards continue to turn back cars with East German licence plates well away from the Austrian border.

Some of those fleeing into Austria's easternmost Burgenland province said Thursday that East German cars no longer were allowed to enter the town of Sopron.

The visit by Nemeth and Horn was not previously announced, indicating that the two governments considered it urgent to meet on the refugee matter.

Few details of the talks were disclosed, but the Foreign Ministry statement said the Hungarians restated their view that the current wave of East German escapes was "a matter to be resolved primarily between West Germany and East Germany."

The Foreign Ministry statement said the Hungarians offered to help resolve the problem.

Bonn had demanded an explanation from Budapest officials for the shooting death of an East German who was trying to escape on Monday, as well as assurances that armed force would not be used against escapees.

# I hope to see death of communism: Walesa

Railwaymen end strike

WASHINGTON, Aug 26, (Agencies): Solidarity leader Lech Walesa said yesterday he hoped to see the death of communism in Poland but also rejected US-style capitalism for his country.

"I would want to see the death of communism, the kind of communism that existed in my country until recently," Walesa said in an ABC television interview by satellite from Gdansk. He spoke in Polish through an interpreter.

"We will build a system based on democracy and freedom. It won't be capitalism. It will be a system that will be better than capitalism."



Dole in Poland

Mazowiecki (right) meets US Senator Robert Dole (centre right) and his wife Elizabeth. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Protest at Soviet annexation Baltics seek freedom

TALLINN, USSR, Aug 26, (AP): Independence. A year ago, only a few ex-political prisoners dared whisper the word in the three Baltic republics of the Soviet Union.

Today, it is the open goal of a mass movement.

On Wednesday, residents of the Baltics joined hands in a human chain that stretched for 600 kilometres (370 miles) to protest the Soviet annexation of their independent nations 50 years ago.

The protest was the most dramatic sign of the profound changes that have occurred in recent months of the Soviet Union's western frontier.

The mass-membership People's Fronts of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania initially worked for more local authority for their republics within the Soviet Union. Now, the activists are openly calling for a return to independence.

"The declarations of the People's Front in the past year have become ever closer to the ideals our people have carried in their hearts for all these 50 years," said Marius Lauritsen, a Parliament member and leader of the Estonian People's Front. "All of us would like to have freedom, and freedom without independence isn't realistic."

More than two million people in the Baltics have signed petitions that imply their goal is freedom from the central communist-run government in Moscow:

■ In Lithuania, 1.3 million people have signed petitions that say the Soviet Union annexed their nation "against the will of Lithuanians." The document calls for removal of the Soviet "occupation army" and seeks UN supervision of three elections for a new local government.

■ In Latvia, 430,000 people have signed documents saying they wanted to be considered citizens of an independent Latvia.

■ In Estonia, more than 400,000 have signed petitions asking the republic's parliament to declare illegal the 1940 Estonian parliament's approval of Soviet annexation. In 1940, the legislature was elected under Soviet occupation and only communists were allowed to run.

Despite the increasingly public nature of the Baltics' yearning for independence, in Moscow the idea of the Soviet Union giving up a strategic piece of territory strikes most Russians as absurd.

The Baltics are front-line territory, home to missile bases, naval and Army units, and vital ports. Activists say one in eight people in Estonia is a Soviet soldier.

Soviet television called the idea of redrawing boundaries "political naivete" in its coverage of Wednesday's protest.

"Independence — it'll never happen," said a taxi driver in Tallinn, who is part-Russian.

The Baltic republics' economies are a wreck, and hope for development of a new tourist industry

ignores their cold, damp climate, he said.

There also is significant opposition to independence among the approximately 2.7 million Russians and other non-Baltic people who live among the eight million residents of the three republics. Yet independence seemed plausible, even possible, among the tens of thousands of Estonians who held hands on the crest of Tallinn's Toompea hill on Wednesday evening.

Estonia made international headlines last November when its republic claimed the right to overturn Soviet laws. The Kremlin declared the move invalid, but Estonia has not backed down.

The republic's plan for economic autonomy was greeted with derision two years ago, but now has been approved in principle by the new Soviet national legislature.

Recent strikes by Russians in Estonia over a voter registration law disturbed activists, but the Kremlin refrained from ordering the workers back to their jobs and strove for a peaceful compromise.

Alvydas Medalis, a leader of the Lithuanian group Sajudis, said his organisation would not exist now if it had spoken of independence as recently as January.

On Wednesday, however, the Sajudis Council voted to call for "creation of an independent Democratic Lithuanian Republic not under the power of the Soviet Union."

A day earlier, the Lithuanian parliament passed a resolution calling the Soviet annexation "an international crime."

In Latvia, the People's Front will vote at its Congress in October on changing its platform to call for a return to full independence, said chairman Ivars Freimanis.

Although the activists are united in their goal, there is wide disagreement on how to achieve independence.

Latvian radicals favour creation of an alternative legislature, while moderates feel it is safer to win control of the existing supreme Soviet.

The Communist Party newspaper Pravda yesterday expressed alarm at the explosion of anti-Soviet feeling in Lithuania, and asked what was in store for the republic and the Soviet Union if current trends continued.

■ A car blew up in the centre of Yerevan, capital of Soviet Armenia, but no-one was hurt, the Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda said today.

Pravda said the blue Lada car, which exploded yesterday evening, was packed with ammunition and explosives. It quoted witnesses as saying the blast sent out a column of flame, breaking windows of a nearby hotel.

The report did not say whether the car had been intended as a bomb or was being used to carry the explosives.

Slavic minority and forging figures in a census last April.

An article by Tanjug news agency published in all Belgrade newspapers said there were 120,000 Slavs in Albania before World War Two.

"After decades of persecution and assimilation... Albanian authorities have counted and presented to the international public that in the 'Land of Eagles' live 1,697 Macedonians and 100 Montenegrins, Serbs and Croats," the article said.

Fail to consider: Many studies predicting manmade global warming fail to consider that the Earth could heat things up more by responding with its own climate-shifting effects, scientists at a US-Soviet conference said yesterday.

Until now, scientists have predicted global warming would be based largely on the rising levels of carbon dioxide and other atmospheric gases produced by human activities, such as the burning of fossil fuels and logging of forests.

Many say that such warming, left unchecked, could drastically alter world-wide weather patterns and increase polar-ice melting, thereby raising the sea level and flooding coastal regions.

Government rejects: The government today rejected a call by the Holy Synod, ruling body of the orthodox Church of Greece, for the release of the military dictators held in an Athens jail since the collapse of the junta in 1974.

The US government, which used to accept almost all the Soviet Jews who applied for immigration, changed its policy last October because of the large number now permitted to leave the Soviet Union.

Press accuses: The Yugoslav press accused Albania yesterday of assimilating its

subject and it does not comment on Holy Synod announcements," said government spokesman Athanasios Kanellopoulos.

The military seized power in April 1967 and

was toppled in July 1974, after engineering an abortive coup in Cyprus which led to a Turkish invasion of the northern part of the independent eastern Mediterranean island.



Raid on supermarket

A supermarket employee who was stabbed in the chest during a raid is carried to an ambulance outside a London supermarket in the Fulham Road today. A Scotland Yard spokesman said the 24-year-old man later died in hospital. The raider fled the supermarket empty-handed. (Reuter wirephoto)

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was toppled in July 1974, after engineering an abortive coup in Cyprus which led to a Turkish invasion of the northern part of the independent eastern Mediterranean island.



Escaping tear-gas

Students at the University of the Western Cape flee after police opened fire on them with tear-gas and shotguns. The confrontation followed shortly after a

## South Africa sounds tough

Protesters arrested

PRETORIA, Aug 26, (Agencies): South African leaders signalled today they would order fresh action against a pre-election anti-apartheid campaign in which 60 people have died so far.

Acting President F.W. de Klerk said the government

would never allow a recurrence of a 1984-87 nation-wide revolt,

which was suppressed with the help of emergency powers still in force.

"We cannot allow that those who propagate violence and intimidation in the name of peaceful protest should succeed with their plans," De Klerk said at the opening of an exhibition in Pretoria.

Law and Order Minister Adrián Vlok, who is in charge of the police, also indicated a further crackdown was likely.

"South Africa cannot afford to be subjected to the same spiral of violence that existed before the state of emergency was declared," Vlok told a meeting of police generals.

"It is therefore the duty of the government to protect lives and property with the powers vested in it. This we will fulfil with responsibility and diligence," he said.

Vlok said 60 people had been killed since the campaign against apartheid and racially segregated elections on Sept 6 was unveiled in late July.

The foundry workers' proposal echoed an appeal by Walesa yesterday for workers to back Mazzowiecki, a veteran adviser to the free trade union Solidarity. He said radical reforms were needed and that Poles should not hinder them by striking.

Solidarity leaders have been hoping for \$10 billion in Western aid.

Vladimir Kryuchkov, head of the Soviet KGB security service, flew to Poland and had talks today with President Wojciech Jaruzelski and acting Interior Minister Czeslaw Kiszczak, Warsaw Radio said, without giving further details.

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# Soldiers raid Arab villages

Palestinian dies after being shot

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Aug. 26. (Agencies): A young Palestinian man died in hospital today after being shot by Israeli soldiers during a clash in the occupied Gaza Strip, Palestinian sources said.

Ali Mohammed Sha'aban, 23, was shot by troops combatting stone-throwers in Jabalya refugee camp yesterday.

His death raised the toll in the 20-month-long Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip to at least 612 Palestinians and 40 Jews.

Arab hospital officials said troops also shot and wounded two Palestinians during clashes in Gaza after four people were injured in scattered overnight protests.

In Nablus in the West Bank, residents said they heard gunshots and smell tear-gas from a prison where Palestinians are held. The Army said it was checking their report.

Israeli troops today raided several Arab villages in the occupied West Bank and battled Palestinian youths who built makeshift barricades on a central Gaza city street and hurled stones from rooftops. Palestinian reports said.

A former military governor of the West Bank, meanwhile, warned that the situation in the occupied lands could deteriorate and that the Palestinians may employ more violent means unless there is a progress in the stalled peace process.

In scattered clashes in the West Bank, two Palestinians were shot and wounded by Army troops today, Arab hospital officials said. One of the wounded was a 13-year-old boy reported in serious condition with a gunshot to the neck.

Arab journalists said soldiers raided at least three villages in the Ramallah area to arrest suspected uprising ring-leaders.

The Army also reportedly drew on the village of Ramallah in the West Bank town of Hebron after villagers there burned several houses owned by an alleged pro-Israeli collaborator and his relatives, Arab reporters said.

Palestinian journalists reported from Gaza City the clash on the Omar El-Mukhtar street lasted for at least one hour. They said Arab youths blocked the street with stone barricades and burning tires and threw stones at soldiers from rooftops.

Troops responded with gunfire from their observation posts atop the nearby buildings. However no casualties were reported in the clash.

Young Palestinians who kidnapped an Israeli gold dealer intended to demand a swap with Palestinian activists arrested by Israel, security sources said.

Israel's Shin Bet secret police yesterday pulled Shaul Mashanya from a West Bank well in which Arab kidnappers had held him for nearly two days.

Mashanya, captured while collecting business debts in the occupied territory, was the first Israeli to be abducted since an uprising against Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza Strip began 20 months ago.

Thesources said more violence and kidnaps are feared as younger activists become more powerful while the influence of older men wanes, in part because some of them have met Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

Mashanya, 46, spent 40 hours in the dry well in Abush village in the Tulkarm area before he was rescued.

An Army spokesman said Shin Bet agents were led to Mashanya by a suspect they detained on Thursday.

In June, uprising activists kidnapped American social worker Chris George, but quickly



Mishaniya (centre) and Major-General Yitzhak Mordechai (left) inspect the well in Abush village in which Mishaniya was found. (Reuter wirephoto)

## Radicals in held areas

### Hezbollah formed

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Aug. 26. (Reuter): A leaflet circulated in Jerusalem yesterday announced the establishment of the radical Islamic Hezbollah group in the Israeli-occupied territories, Palestinians said.

"The jihad with faith and the gun against Jewish injustice and American arrogance is a human necessity," the leaflet proclaimed.

"Beware of disobeying God and adopting the morals of the devil and of being involved with political parties to whom God did not give political authority," it warned Palestinians.

It was the first time the name of the Iranian-backed Hezbollah, believed to be holding several Western hostages, has been invoked in the occupied territories.

It was not clear if the handbill was genuine, or whether the Lebanese Shiite Muslim movement had any following among Palestinians under Israeli occupation.

Two other Palestinian fundamentalist groups — the Islamic Resistance Movement Hamas and the radical Islamic Jihad — are already active in the 20-month-old anti-Israeli uprising.

The leaflet made no reference to Iran or Lebanon and did not say if the new group was Shiite. The overwhelming majority of Muslims in the occupied territories are followers of the main Sunni branch of Islam.

Palestinian and Israeli sources say Iran has given some financial support to Islamic Jihad but has little influence in the occupied territories, partly because of the Shi'a-Sunni split and partly because of its long war against Arab Iraq.

Released him after uprising leaders condemned the act as detrimental to the Palestinian cause.

The PLO is ready to discuss the Israel elections for Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied territories, a PLO leader was quoted as saying today in Abu Dhabi.

PLO executive committee member Mahmoud Abbas told the United Arab Emirates newspaper Al-I'tihad that the PLO would not allow Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip to negotiate an independent settlement with Israel.

But the PLO is ready to form

a delegation comprising Palestinians from inside and outside the occupied territories to open a dialogue with Israeli leaders to discuss elections as part of a comprehensive settlement," he was quoted as saying.

In an interview in Cairo, Abbas said the PLO was already holding indirect talks with Israel, but did not elaborate.

Last week, the PLO said it had ordered a stop to independent Palestinian contacts with Israel, including Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, because it could be seen as tacit approval of Palestinian contacts with Israel other than through the PLO.

The local town hall and gymnasium were charred by fires started by arsonists after the mosque, set up in a condemned building, was razed on orders from Gerard Desemps, the town's right-wing mayor.

Muslim immigrants, who make up 11 per cent of Charvieu-Chavagneux's 8,000 inhabitants, held their Friday prayers in the streets for the second time since the mosque was destroyed.

The mosque, located 10 days ago, was destroyed by fire.

The two provinces, with some six million people, have been torn by prolonged civil wars which have killed hundreds of thousands of civilians.

Visa fraud

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 26. (UPI): A man believed to be the top US representative of an Iranian political group has been arrested for alleged visa fraud at Los Angeles International Airport, the Federal Bureau of Investigation said Thursday.

Aladdin Touran, 36, of Stockholm, who is believed to be a ranking member of the People's Mojahedin Organisation, was arrested Monday afternoon, said FBI spokeswoman Bobi Wallace in Washington.

Touran was charged with visa fraud, which carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a fine of \$2,000, for entering the United States on an allegedly fraudulently obtained visa at Dulles International Airport outside Washington, Wallace said.

Jury indicted

MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota, Aug. 26. (AP): A US grand jury has indicted a New Jersey-based company and two of its officers on charges of illegally exporting a corrosion-inhibiting product to Libya from a Minnesota subsidiary, US attorney Jerry Arnold says.

A grand jury is a panel of citizens who review evidence and decide whether a case should go to trial and, if so, which charges should be filed.

Sealed Air Corp., a packaging manufacturer, yesterday denied any illegal activity by the company or its employees.

American aid

RABAT, Aug. 26. (KUNA): The United States of America is to extend to Morocco \$3 million to promote the Moroccan health efforts in family planning, child and mother health care and the struggle against AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

The aid is part of a co-operation programme between the two countries providing for the extension of \$120 million aiming at developing and upgrading the activities of the Moroccan health department in different fields.

# PLO wants to join tourism body

PARIS, Aug. 26. (Reuter): The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which is campaigning for international recognition, will seek to become a member of the world body running tourism next week, diplomatic and other sources said yesterday.

The World Tourism Organisation, which has 107 member states including Israel, has a six-day meeting starting in Paris on Monday. At least 50 tourism ministers are due to attend.

A French official organising the meeting said: "We expect they (PLO) will formally make the application on Monday. At this stage it is difficult to predict the outcome."

Since the creation of a Palestinian state was proclaimed last November, the PLO has tried to gain entry into international organisations and United Nations agencies.

Both the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) voted this year to shelve the Palestinian applications after prolonged and heated debate.

The PLO drive is fiercely opposed by Israel and also by the



A crying Palestinian girl and other girls leave an area where Israeli troops detained many Palestinian men (not seen to left of photo). (Reuter wirephoto)

United States and other Western nations. They argue that until Palestine exists as a sovereign

territory the PLO cannot sit with other states.

Diplomatic sources in Paris

said representatives of the 12 European Economic Community (EEC) nations met yesterday

to try to forge a common position on the PLO application. The outcome was not known.

## 165 narrowly escape disaster Boeing hits radar

ISTANBUL, Aug. 26. (Reuter): A Boeing airliner carrying 165 people narrowly escaped disaster when it hit a radar antenna after takeoff from Ankara airport bound for the Netherlands, Turkish airport officials said today.

The fuselage and left wing of the Toros Air Boeing 727-200 charter plane were damaged and the pilot made an emergency landing after circling and dumping fuel, the official said.

"When we were first taking off, we hit the ground twice. Then we saw smoke coming out of the wing. The hostesses went round trying to keep up our morale, and then we landed," Turkish passenger Orhan Odemis told the Anatolian news agency.

No one was hurt aboard the 20-year-old plane which was on a flight to Maastricht yesterday. An alternative flight was being arranged today, the officials said.

Most of the passengers were Turks travelling to Europe for work.

"The plane couldn't get enough altitude. I am still waiting for a report on why this happened," Ismet Erustun, general manager of the Istanbul-based Toros Air Charter Company, told Reuters.

The airliner hit the four-metre (13-ft) high instrument landing system (ILS) antenna 300 metres (330 yards) after the end of the runway, Erustun said.

## French held for firing at Muslims

GRENOBLE, France, Aug. 26. (Reuter): A member of France's ultra-right National Front was briefly detained after firing at a group of Muslims in a town where local authorities destroyed a mosque last week, police said today.

Jacky Portocaglion, the National Front representative in Charvieu-Chavagneux, near Grenoble, was questioned by police late yesterday after firing a shotgun at a crowd of Muslims. Police said no one was injured.

Portocaglion, who said his shotgun cartridges were packed with wheat, was released this morning. No charges have yet been filed.

He told reporters after his release that he opened fire after hearing a shot he believed had been fired by a group of angry young Muslims who had hurled stones at his car.

"If it were to happen again I would do the same thing. We're not going to let ourselves be molested by Arabs," he said.

The incident occurred the same day a leader of the extreme right-wing party condemned plans to rebuild the town's mosque.

"Freedom of religion must not serve as a pretext for the Islamisation of France," said Bruno Megret, the National Front's third ranking official. "We do not want to see mosques mushrooming across the country."

The bulldozing of the southeastern town's mosque 10 days ago sent shock waves through France's three million Muslims and drew a promise on Thursday from a right-wing mayor of Grenoble, Alain Carignon, to build a new place of worship.

Muslim immigrants, who make up 11 per cent of Charvieu-Chavagneux's 8,000 inhabitants, held their Friday prayers in the streets for the second time since the mosque was destroyed.

The two provinces, with some six million people, have been torn by prolonged civil wars which have killed hundreds of thousands of civilians.

Visa fraud

ADDIS ABABA, Aug. 26. (Reuter): Ethiopia's northern provinces of Eritrea and Tigray, ravaged by civil wars, may face a critical food shortage next year because of the lack of rain this year, a government report said today.

The report by the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission (RRC), a copy of which was obtained by Reuters, said the region's livestock stock would be badly hit by the lack of rains during the main June-July farming season.

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Jury indicted

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## Talks held on Lebanon

### Syrian FM visits Jordan

AMMAN, Aug. 26. (Reuter): Syria's foreign minister, on a previously unannounced visit to Jordan, discussed the Lebanese conflict today with Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Bin Shaker.

"Our talks focused on the situation in Lebanon and we had an extensive and broad exchange of views on that matter," Foreign Minister Farouq Al Shara told reporters after almost three hours of talks at the prime minister's office.

In Cairo, government sources said Jordan's King Hussein would visit Egypt tomorrow to discuss Lebanon and other Middle East peace efforts with President Hosni Mubarak.

They said King Hussein, who had talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Baghdad last week, would only spend a few hours in Cairo.

Shara said he and Shaker held detailed talks on developments in the region and on Lebanon, where Syria has an estimated 33,000 troops. He declined to elaborate on those talks.

The state-run news agency Petra said Jordan and Syria agreed to intensify Arab peace efforts, but did not say if they backed any particular peace formula.

The two sides reaffirmed the need to boost joint Arab efforts to end the Lebanese crisis which is a weak point in Arab national security," the agency said.

Jordan, a close ally of Iraq and a friend of Damascus, has urged Arab leaders to act immediately to halt the bloodshed in Lebanon and has implicitly criticised Syria's role there.

At least 760 people have been killed since mid-March in artillery battles between the Christian-led army, which has received arms from Iraq, and Syrian forces backing Muslim and leftist militias.

At an Arab League summit in Casablanca in May, King Hussein proposed sending equal contingents of Arab peacekeeping troops from 10 countries to Lebanon, but Syria blocked the idea.

The king has said his proposal

## Kurds kill soldier in highway attack

### Turkish passengers unharmed

ISTANBUL, Aug. 26. (Reuter): Kurdish rebels forced passengers from a bus, killed an off-duty Turkish soldier among them, then let the other travellers go in a rare attack on the main Ankara-Iran highway, Anatolian news agency said today.

The rebels shot dead Private Erdal Ozturan after shouting "separatist slogans" the agency said.

In last night's attack, the 10-man "separatist" band burned four trucks loaded with timber after using a barricade across the road between Erzurum and Kars to force the vehicles to stop.

"Separatists" are usually Kurdish rebels of the banned Kurdish Workers Party (PKK) that has fought since 1984 for an independent nation for Turkey's estimated eight million Kurds.

A Kurdish "village guard" pro-government militiaman was killed and three people were wounded in a PKK-army clash today near the Turkish border with Iraq, security sources said.

# Kuwait, Egypt serve each other's interests

## Amir flies to Cairo tomorrow



KUWAIT, Aug 26. (KUNA): HH the Amir flies to Cairo on Monday on a visit described by analysts as a fresh beginning in Kuwaiti-Egyptian relations on all fronts.

Relations between the two sisterly countries have been good in general as contact channels remained intact although diplomatic ties were ruptured in the past ten years.

Although President Hosni Mubarak inherited a heavy legacy from his predecessor Anwar Sadat, he made great strides in mending fences with many Arab states, including Kuwait.

The two sides have done a great deal in serving each other's interests, as Kuwait contributes to rebuilding the Egyptian economy through loans and investments, while Cairo allows Kuwaiti nationals to own houses and issued a law safeguarding their investments.

The Egyptian workforce has contributed significantly to the Kuwaiti market, as Kuwait is keen to employ Arab labourers, in order to maintain its traditions and values, not to mention its security.

On the military and security level, Kuwait's independence in 1961 was widely blessed by the Egyptian leadership, while Kuwait contributed financially to rebuilding the Egyptian armed forces following the 1967 war with Israel.

Moreover, Kuwait dispatched one of its best-trained Army battalions to defend the western bank of the Suez Canal in 1967.

Also Egypt was deeply concerned over Kuwait's security during the Gulf war.

On the political front, both countries clearly back all Arab causes, particularly the Palestinian question. They

also supported Iraq during its war with Iran.

Both sides agree that the situation in Lebanon poses a threat to that country's well-being, paves the way for foreign interventions and weakens Arab efforts toward drawing support for the Palestinian cause.

Egypt and Kuwait have also called for peace, disarmament and protecting human rights, as they strongly oppose the racial discrimination policy practised in Pretoria and Tel Aviv.

The two countries have displayed profound worry over the heavy debts of the Third World estimated at \$1,300 billion, as HH the Amir has proposed before the general assembly last September to abolish interests on debts of developing nations to developed ones.

President Mubarak, for his part, has asserted that the debt problem can only be resolved through a conference

grouping debtors and creditors.

The forthcoming summit meeting of the two leaders of the Muslim and African worlds in Egypt will have special importance, said Kuwaiti Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah.

Sheikh Jaber, speaking to Egyptian daily "Al Ahram" hailed the visit by HH the Amir of Kuwait and current Chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference Sheikh Jaber Al Hamad Al Sabah to Egypt and his meeting with President Hosni Mubarak who also chairs the Organisation of African Unity.

He attached great political and historical importance to the two leaders' talks due to the current delicate phase and regional and international developments.

About Kuwaiti investments in Egypt, the minister said that Kuwait

sees national and economic importance in such investments, pointing out that Kuwait is the biggest investor in Egypt.

He spoke of his recent visit to Cairo and described it as very successful and fruitful.

Planning Minister Dr Abdul-Rahman Al Awadhi on the other hand said in a statement the upcoming visit to Egypt by HH the Amir will have a significant impact on the state of affairs in the Arab and Islamic worlds.

The three-day visit which begins on Monday will cement ties between the two Arab countries in the face of external schemes to crack the unity of the Arab world.

The minister expected the two heads of state to discuss Lebanon at length, saying the two leaders are fully aware of the need for the Arab states to join forces in trying to solve this perennial crisis and to spare the Arab nation

further losses.

Awadhi indicated that Kuwaiti investments in Egypt would also be a key topic during the Egyptian-Kuwaiti summit as HH the Amir expressed interest in increasing the country's investment in Egypt.

The treat would be put in force in a way to secure greater economic and political co-operation between the two sides, he said.

KUNA board chairman and director-general Bargas Hmoud Al Bargas has said that HH the Amir's visit to Egypt will crown the strong relations between the two peoples and criticise Arab media coverage of the Palestinian intifada.

Bargas, in an interview with a Kuwaiti daily, said that HH the Amir, HH the Crown Prince and Kuwait government appreciate Egypt's stands toward Arab and Islamic causes.

## Blackouts Residents of Wafra reassured by MEW

By Salem Al Wawan

ACTING undersecretary at the Ministry of Electricity and Water Mahmoud Baqer has said that the ministry is concerned about improving its services under all circumstances to fulfil the directives of HH the Amir.

Speaking to Sevassah, Arab Times he said that the ministry's first and last concern was the consumer, and that as such more plans were constantly being developed and efforts continuously exerted to improve the level of services rendered to consumers.

Asked about the ministry's arrangements regarding the Wafra farms continuous power supply network, he said that a special emergency office had been set up in the area and that contacts were currently under way with the Ministry of Communications to provide this office with the required communication services, after that the office would be expected to be operational within 10 days.

**Control**

He pointed out that with the operation of the office all power-related problems would easily be brought under control, and therefore farmers could feel reassured that the ministry was working hard to prevent any inconveniences happening to them again.

On the other hand, Baqer pointed out the ministry had connected the power supply to Wafra village in co-operation with the Getty Oil Company, which is the agency responsible for the power supply connection to the area.

He blamed electrical overload for most power failures at home in the village, starting with the burning of the safety fuses and subsequent blackouts.

He said that radical measures and effective steps were being taken to end this problem, meanwhile all were urged to co-operate with the ministry and cut down on excessive unnecessary power consumption.

## Rents and rations eat away salaries

### Purchasing power dwindle

By Ali Al Masaudi

ECONOMICS are not only pivotal to countries of the world in bringing about social stability and order, but are a vital ingredient in the daily life of individuals.

According to recent studies undertaken, it has been determined that most people complain that their salaries vanish by the middle of the month and added that the necessity for food and clothing are second only to rents. Expatriates said that rents appropriate the majority of the income and what little is left is paid out for consumables.

Husbands complained that their wives have no limit in spending at co-operative societies and do not appreciate that their husbands salaries should be dispensed on a "shoe-string." They added that with the present economic situation in the region, salaries have not only remained static but with depreciation, it has eaten into their purchasing power. Additionally, they said

One consumer, Zaki Al Din said that he goes to a co-operative society with the express purpose of purchasing tissues, but invariably comes out with a large number of bags filled with various commodities — particularly food. Food, he said, is a commodity that one cannot do without and consequently he spends between KD50-60 in these items at the co-operative alone.

Another consumer, Fabd Mohammad said that on an average he spends about KD5 daily at the co-operative society, and although he admitted that the prices are reasonable, by the middle of the month he finds that his salary has disappeared. His

son Abdul Aziz said that he visits the co-operative society daily and takes his daily meals from a nearby restaurant and even though he spends very reasonably, his savings are practically nil and more often than not he has to call on his family to help him out financially.

Most consumers interviewed stressed on the large discrepancies between the various co-operative societies. One lady, who did not want to be identified said that in her area, the prices of co-operative society isordinately high as compared to other such facilities. Thus, it necessitates her travelling to other societies that are quite a distance away from her residence to enable her to save some money.

**Arguments**

Some housewives accused the men-folk for being responsible for the quick drain of their monthly salary. They said that they spend on non-essentials such as cigarettes, entertainment, needless outings and do not work out a budget.

**Conclusion**

Ubaid called on relevant authorities to award the death penalty to smugglers of hashish and narcotics as in some Arab countries. He added that in Kuwait smugglers know that they will only be jailed when arrested. He further stated that customs officials seized about 18 kilos of hashish and heroin during last week. He added that narcotics merchants have now begun smuggling narcotics through persons who do not take narcotics in order not to be suspected. The contraband is hidden in several ingenious ways, the official said.

**Rehabilitation**

The Criminal Court acquitted a man accused of possessing and trading in drugs, but ordered that another accused in the same case be admitted to a health centre for a period of one year for rehabilitation and to a fine of KD50 for smuggling the drugs into Kuwait.

referred to investigation authorities.

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**Conclusion**

The official said that the accused who works for a private company in Kuwait mixed the hashish with Henna in order to camouflage its smell. However, the customs officials were put on alert when they noticed the accused "chain smoking" and undertook a thorough search. The inspectors noticed that the hand bag of the accused was inordinately heavy although it was empty. The bottom of the bag was broken open and the hashish was discovered.

The defendant claimed that the bag was given to him as a gift and he was unaware of its contents.

Ubaid estimated the seized contraband's value to be in the vicinity of KD18,000.

The contraband and the accused have been

## Six kilos hashish seized from Asian at airport

AN ASIAN worker returning to Kuwait from his country last Thursday was apprehended by customs officials at Kuwait Airport for trying to smuggle six kilos of hashish, according to Abdul Razzak Al Ubaid, assistant director of General Customs Authority for airport exits.

The official said that the accused who works for a private company in Kuwait mixed the hashish with Henna in order to camouflage its smell. However, the customs officials were put on alert when they noticed the accused "chain smoking" and undertook a thorough search. The inspectors noticed that the hand bag of the accused was inordinately heavy although it was empty. The bottom of the bag was broken open and the hashish was discovered.

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Pamela...Madonna antics



Mary Ann Espadilla...entertainer



Miss Visayas, Maria Lourdes



Mr. Metro Manila, Richard Norman



Miss Luzon, Rudgie Marie



Naser with Miss Metro Manila



Little Miss Philippines, Pamela Rose Rojo

# Pamela and Naser steal the show

## Little Mr and Miss Philippines — 1989

**IN SPITE** of the warm weather, more than 200 enthusiastic spectators drove to the Showbiz Pizza Place to watch the selection of Little Mr and Miss Philippines — Kuwait for 1989 organised by The Association of Filipinos in Kuwait (Kapilku) on Friday.

Naser Al Naser whose mother is a Filipina won the prestigious title of Little Mister Philippines — Kuwait for 1989. He impressed all the judges with his smart movement and elegant suit. He also ran away with almost all the special awards by winning the Mister Photogenic, Talent and best suit.

Pamela Rose Rojo, whose antics showed during the over-all performance and imitated the Madonna style captured the Little Miss Philippines — Kuwait 1989. Her lovable dance won the heart of the judges.

Aside from the trophies and valuable prizes, both the winners won USD 100.00 each courtesy of Jameel Rahman, General Manager of The City International Exchange Co and Masud Ul Amin, Assistant General Manager. All the par-

ticipants were given 1.1 grams of gold donated by Don Jayantha Kannangara, director of Trico International Ltd.

First Runner-up (Little Miss Luzon) was taken by Rudgie Marie Maguirang who performed well in the talent portion and received the Miss Talent award and Maria Lourdes Santos Inerto, a four-year-old and one of the favourites of the crowd snapped up the Little Miss Visayas (second runner-up). Her declamation of "Vengeance is ours" impressed the feeling of the judges.

Jammela Brenda Rafael won the third runner-up (Little Miss Mindanao) and Miss Friendship award. While Marjan Martin, a three-year-old did a tough act to capture the Little Miss Metro Manila (fourth runner-up). She won the prize for the best gown in the contest.

Rhalston Anthony Dagdag was the first runner-up (Little Mr Luzon) with his story telling talent which he showed to the delight of the judges. Philip Bharwaj took the Mister Visayas (second runner-up) and was voted Mr. Friendship. Third runner-up (Mister Mindanao)

went to Ruel Austria while Richard Norman Mercado captured the fourth runner-up (Mister Metro Manila) with his dancing. Richard was the only contestant who wore the national dress.

### Trophies

All the winners for the major awards were awarded trophies donated by Atty. Mohd Zaid Al Awadi and Marina Laygo while the trophies for the special awards were courtesy of Adnan Khalil, General Manager of Far East Restaurant.

All the champions and winners in their respective divisions were given gift certificates donated by Kabayan Restaurant, Mabuhay Restaurant, Pizza Italia, Oriental Trading & Refrigeration Co., Mr Bobby Madayag, Manager of Bobby's Gift Shop, Al Bader Stationery, Saleh Abughosh, Manager of Haid Ligaya, Ojic Olor, Pinoy Restaurant, Afghanim Forwarders and Mandy Catapang of Modern Saloon.

Secretary Rosalie Austria the chairperson of the said project made the welcome address to all participants and guests.

Atty Louie Cortel, Legal Officer and attache was the guest of honour. He thanked Kapilku for a wonderful project like the Little Mr & Miss Philippines — Kuwait, for the development of the children and for the community service.

Maryann Espadilla rendered a song while Abet Campos and Mher Lumbang entertained the spectators with their beautiful songs. Evelyn Odiceta was there to render her memorable song to all the guests.

Kapilku President Manny Inserto in his closing remarks thanked all Kapilku officers for their wonderful job and expressed his appreciation to all sponsors and participants without whom the project might never have been so successful.

Versatile Jun Mercado and energetic Evelyn Odiceta were the master of ceremonies. VP Sarah Macarimbang and AVP Lulu Alejojo were the co-ordinators.

The board of judges were composed of Atty Cortel, Chairman, Thelma Saniel, Finance Attache — Philippine Embassy,

Grace Fe Covarubias, President of Flasik, Rosario Luna, President of Samahan ng Pilipinong Optometrist sa Kuwait, Salvador Patungan, Executive Director of FCC, Rory Aureliano, Managing Partner of Kabayan Restaurant, Basil Abughosh, Managing Director of Abughosh Int'l and Bert Papas.

Special judges for the Little Mr & Miss Photogenic were composed of George de la Cruz, P.J. Obiena and Danny Pangan.

Albert Arriola, of Kuwait Regency Palace Hotel was the auditor for the contest.

The chairman was Jojo Medrano and the vice chairman was Jun Mercado, who were the officials of the competition.

All participants in the just concluded Little Mr and Miss Philippines Kuwait will have a get-together on Friday, from 1.00 pm to 5.00 pm at Kabayan Restaurant. Parlor games will be provided to the participants and trophies for appreciation will be given to all.

For details please contact chairperson Rosafe.



Sugar and spice...the ladies line up



Boys will be boys...lining up



Sponsors Don Kannangara (third left) and Jameel Rahman (second right) with the winners and KAPILKU office bearers



Miss Visayas and company do a Lei dance

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Omani envoy

KUWAIT, Aug 26. (KUNA): HH the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah today received the envoy of Sultan Qaboos Bin Seeed of Oman, Mohammed Bin Ali Bin Nasir Al Alwi, who presented the Amir a message from the Omani leader.

The audience was attended by Information Minister and Acting Justice Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad and charge d'affaires at the Omani embassy here.

### Qatar ties

NICOSIA, Aug. 25. (Reuter): Qatar established full diplomatic relations with Yugoslavia yesterday, the official news agency said.

The conservative Gulf state set up full ties with the Soviet Union and China last year and senior officials from both nations visited Doha to discuss economic and political co-operation.

**Policeman honoured.** KUWAIT, Aug. 26. (KUNA): Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah today honoured First Lt (intelligence) Fawaz Fadi Al Anzi of Sulaihat police station in recognition of his distinguished services.

Present at the occasion were the ministry's acting under-secretary, Brig. Mohamed Ahmed Al Qabandi and Acting Director of the Capital Intelligence Department Major Dawood Al Qaneai.

### Accident

AMMAN, Aug. 26. (KUNA): Eight Kuwaiti nationals have been injured in a road accident outside Amman last night, police said today.

Police added that the accident occurred on Alazraq-to-Alzara road when the driver lost control of the van that was heading for Kuwait.

### Revolution

KUWAIT, Aug. 26. (KUNA): Secretary-General of Arab Cities Organisation Abdul Aziz Al Adasani leaves here Thursday for Tripoli to take part in the celebrations of the 20th anniversary of the Libyan Revolution.

While there, Adasani will get acquainted with cultural, economic and social achievements realized during the past 20 years.

Adasani will be accompanied by the organisation's Director-General Talib Al Taher.

## Plan to produce fertiliser from garbage in two years

THE head of the waste collection section at Kuwait Municipality Khalifa Al Tamyan has said that construction works pertaining to the garbage collecting project will commence after two years. He added that the Industrial Investment Company prepared an economic feasibility study and the centre will be run by the organic fertilisers company which will be owned by the Public Investment Authority.

The centre will have factories to transfer house garbage into organic fertilisers and will be developed using the latest technology for conversion of garbage into quality organic fertilisers.

The municipality has established an experimental factory to produce organic fertilisers from residential garbage in the mid 1960's. It was supposed to establish the garbage complex in case of success of the factory. The factory was closed in 1984 due to the inferior quality of the produced fertilisers and to the low economic benefits. In 1987 the Council of Ministers agreed to establish a company to the government to produce organic fertilisers from residential garbage. The Public Invest-

ment Authority asked the Industrial Investment Company to prepare the relevant economic and technical studies. Municipality took part in some stages of the study that was completed last year, the official said.

### Costs

Tamyan pointed out that the project will reduce costs of burying remains as at present. The lands used for burying garbage will also be made available for other purposes and projects. The project will treat about 87 per cent of house garbage while only 13 per cent will be buried according to the study. The centre will produce organic fertilisers suitable for use in agricultural projects, he said.

The centre will consist of two plants to produce organic fertilisers, one at Amnara Industrial Area to the North and the other in the South after the Ahmadi Area. The two plants will be located far from the housing areas. They will be at distances safe enough to avoid pollution. The two plants will be close to the garbage collection centres.

### PAAET has more females

## New admission policy soon

THE dean of students and training affairs at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (PAAET) Hisham Al Mutawa has said that some Kuwaiti students were not admitted at the authority's faculties or training centres because they failed to select the major that can be accepted on the basis of their percentage of the Secondary School Certificate. These students did not write more than one option in the applications submitted to the authority, the official said. He added that the authority evaluation exams at the faculties of the authority for fresh students will commence on September 10. Expatriate students who were not admitted in the authority in the first session will have an opportunity to submit their applications for the second session. The authority will offer transportation for girls living in remote areas, he said.

Mutawa pointed out that the authority's new five-year-plan will be announced shortly. The authority will get acquainted with cultural, economic and social achievements realized during the past 20 years.

were for girls, he said and added that students should try and select other majors and faculties like health sciences and technological studies or commercial studies in order to enhance the possibility of admission.

### Drop out

Mutawa pointed out that many students at different faculties do not continue and leave their faculties for other places.

Girls rush to faculties of the authority because of lesser chances. A total of 900 applications in the last session were rejected because all of them wanted to join the faculty of basic education. Most rejected applications

## Committee for investigations

## High temperatures causing fires

THE commander of Shuaikh and Farwaniya Fire Brigade Lt Col. Hameed Bahman has referred the increasing number of fires during summer to high temperatures and violators of storage restrictions. He also added that children who enjoy a long holiday during summer have more time to play with electrical appliances, matches and fireworks that cause fires. He also attributed fires to bad electrical extensions and increase of electrical load during summer.

Bahman stressed that some of these

accidents are caused intentionally. Some owners of shops or companies set fire to their shops and companies before the annual stock-taking to get the insurance money. Some workers of stores also set fire to their stores to hide their crimes and disappearance of stocks from the stores. But he added that such arson is discovered and exposed. We set up a committee comprising specialists to investigate fires. He also attributed fires to bad electrical extensions and increase of electrical load during summer.

Bahman pointed out that the fire brigades

own the latest fire fighting equipments and vehicles which can reach a height of 20 floors.

The brigade at Shuaikh and Farwaniya command suffers from shortage in drivers of fire vehicles. He called on the insurance companies not to insure any establishment or stores that are not licensed by the General Fire Authority. He added that his area suffers from the existence of many shops and stores that are not licensed by the authority. Most fires are reported in shops and stores that are not licensed by the authority, the official said.

THE acting head of the Urban Design Section at Kuwait Municipality Abdul Wahab Al Abdul Razzaq has said that the projected volume of labour in Kuwait City would reach 187,000, contrary to the recommended total of 140,000 stated in the physical plans.

He told a local daily that the maximum projected population in Kuwait City would reach up to 56,000 compared with the figures stated in the related physical plan which put the minimum at 100,000.

Personnel at the municipality have finalised a special study for continued updating and follow-up of the Kuwait City masterplan, which was duly endorsed. The recommendations adopted by the study emphasised the need not to increase the approved commercial building in the city or attempt to amend the existing building code.

Razzaq said that the study was prepared through co-operation of different government agencies, besides the municipality and that other recommendations contained in it laid heavy emphasis on the need to accelerate the construction of housing projects sponsored by the government in different areas.

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# ARAB TIMES

## Thought for today

THE emotions may be endless. The more we express them, the more we may have to express them — E.M. Forster, English novelist (1879-1970).

## French drive on Lebanon a puzzle

### Objects hazy

FRANCE'S risky attempt to end the fighting in Beirut has so far failed to cow Syria into submission or produce a convincing display of solidarity from the United States and its European allies.

The precise objectives of a French Navy fleet despatched to Lebanon in haste remains hazy and the international campaign to revive Arab League mediation has made no perceptible progress.

But French officials pointed yesterday to two achievements since President Francois Mitterrand launched his "Save Lebanon" initiative on August 12.

Artillery bombardments in Beirut have lessened and the Soviet Union has overcome its reluctance to take a direct part in the search for a ceasefire and a peaceful settlement.

French and foreign analysts were puzzled by the future role of the naval task-force, whose mission was described by Mitterrand last Wednesday as solely humanitarian.

Syria, Iran, Algeria and Muslim leaders in Lebanon have all described what they consider old-style gunboat diplomacy to give succour to Christian army commander Michel Aoun.

"We would rather prefer France to cancel this operation and fold this page," Selim Hoss, Muslim prime minister of one of the two rival Lebanese cabinets and considered a moderate by French officials, said yesterday.

On Wednesday Mitterrand replied to a naked threat from one of the shadowy groups holding Western hostages when he said no outsider could dictate French policy.

But 24 hours later the French fleet in the eastern Mediterranean was scaled down from eight vessels to five.

"Syria's friends were bound to take part as a signal that the French were giving in," one senior European Economic Community (EEC) diplomat commented.

Britain has been the coolest of France's allies in the 12-nation EC about the sending of the task-force, diplomats said. Although France has declared that it enjoys the unanimous backing of its partners, no formal statement to that effect has been made.

"If there were a joint statement it would not go as far as France would like because of the reluctance of the British. They have always been sceptical about French policy in the Lebanon," one European envoy commented.

According to French official sources the limit of the fleet's potential role would be to evacuate French nationals from Beirut if the fighting deteriorated.

But Pierre Darcourt, defence specialist for the daily *Le Figaro*, wrote on Friday that the task-force, led by the aircraft carrier *Foch*, was not strong enough to silence hostile fire during a full evacuation.

Such a mission would in any case involve breaking the Syrian blockade of Christian ports, pitching France into a direct military confrontation with Damascus.

Despite the presence in the Mediterranean of the powerful US Sixth Fleet, Washington has at no time suggested it was backing the French naval force.

Expressions of support from senior US officials have struck French observers as mealy-mouthed and designed not to jeopardise the lives of Americans hostages in Lebanon.

The influential daily *Le Monde*, which is well-informed about Mitterrand's thinking, said on Friday the French initiatives had forced Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to back down.

But the retreat may be temporary, until the heat is off, some analysts in Paris fear.

The trouble is that Syria is confident it has the upper hand in Lebanon in the long term," one Western diplomat said.

*Le Monde*, echoing the views of French officials, observed that France had managed to "internationalise" the vicious conflict thanks to its high-profile activity.

It pushed for and obtained a UN Security Council declaration calling for a ceasefire. After lobbying by Paris Pope John Paul openly blamed Syria for the crisis and the Soviet Union joined peace initiatives by sending senior envoy Genadi Tarasov to Lebanon and Syria.

(Reuter Paris)

### PRESS REVIEW

A local daily cautioned that the French naval presence near Lebanese coasts could heat up the already explosive situation in that war-torn country, and pave the way for other Eastern and Western powers to send their fleets to the region.

Commenting editorially, *Al Rai Al Aam* newspaper said that the Mediterranean basin might become what the Arabian Gulf was during the Iraq-Iran war.

It affirmed that the West, led by the US is trying to turn the whole Arab region into an even hotter spot to divert the world's attention from the 21-month-old intifada in the occupied Arab territories.

The daily charged Washington with making little effort to realise "speedy and tangible" results in its dialogue with the PLO and escalating the situation in Lebanon to justify the Western military presence in that country.

Amid that, the Arab side is in a state of dismay, abandoning the resolutions endorsed by the Casablanca summit on seeking a solution to the Lebanese crisis," *Al Rai Al Aam* underlined.

It stressed that Arabs must back efforts by the three-man committee toward a ceasefire in Lebanon, in order to stop any possible intervention by the big powers. (KUNA)

### TODAY IN HISTORY

1640 — Flemish forces under Count Tilly defeat Denmark's King Christian IV at Lutter, East Germany, placing all North Germany at mercy of Catholic League.

1753 — Russian troops withdraw after indecisive battle with Prussians at Zorndorf, Poland.

1789 — French National Assembly adopts Declaration of the Rights of Man.

1828 — Uruguay is formally proclaimed independent at preliminary peace talks between Brazil and Argentina.

1891 — France and Russia sign an entente.

1928 — Kellogg-Briand pact is signed in Paris, outlawing war and providing for peaceful settlement of disputes.

1939 — Nazi Germany demands Danzig and the Polish Corridor.

1943 — Japanese forces evacuate New Georgia Island in the Pacific in World War II.

1945 — US troops begin landing in Japan at end of World War II.

1966 — French President Charles de Gaulle arrives in Ethiopia from Somalia, where his visit was marred by bloody rioting.

1969 — Israeli commando force penetrates deep into Egyptian territory to stage mortar attack on regional Army headquarters in Nile Valley of Upper Egypt.

1971 — Attempted coup fails in African nation of Chad, and government accuses Egypt of playing role in the attempt and breaks diplomatic relations.

1972 — US jets bomb Haiphong, North Vietnam's major port.

1985 — Nigerian officers announce military coup d'état, and say Army chief of staff is asked to form new government.

1986 — Twelve blacks are shot dead by police in Soweto, and a town councillor is hacked to death in worst riots in more than a year in a black township in South Africa.

1987 — Hundreds of strikers battle riot police in at least two South Korean cities.

1988 — Muslim guerrillas hold two Afghan provincial capitals and battle the regular communist Army for two others.

## Storming the bastions of male power

# LDP public relations coup

JAPAN'S ruling party on Friday named a woman to replace a top cabinet minister who resigned because of a sexual liaison, but most political analysts doubted the move would raise the party above its scandals and male dominance.

"It is too obvious what they tried to do, turn a political disaster into a public-relations coup," said Toshihiko Hara, associate professor of political science at Tokai University.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu named Mayumi Moriyama as chief cabinet secretary, often described as Japan's second most powerful cabinet post, after Tokio Yamashita resigned.

Yamashita stepped down following reports, which he largely confirmed, that he had tried to pay a large amount of money to end a three-year affair with a part-time bar hostess.

It was the second sex scandal in three months involving a top politician from the Liberal Democratic Party, which has also suffered because of leaders' remarks critical of women's political role and from a lack of women in high positions.

### Defeat

The party suffered a humiliating defeat in upper house election in July when it lost its majority in the chamber for the first time since the party's foundation in 1955.

The Japan Socialist Party played the major role in the opposition victory. Party leader Takako Doi, a woman, pursued a conscious policy of running as many women candidates as possible and emphasising women's issues.

Moriyama had earlier been named director of the environmental agency, one of two female members of Kaifu's cabinet. Kaifu's predecessor, Sousuke Uno, resigned following the election defeat.

Uno himself was caught in a scandal involving an extramarital affair, and was also unable to soothe public anger over other scandals and an unpopular sales tax.

The LDP hoped Kaifu could clean up its image and enable it to survive the election for the powerful lower house that must be held no later than July, 1990.

Many analysts believe that as an ex-bureaucrat rather than a politician she will be little more than a figurehead, and see the fact it took over a day for the LDP to accept Yamashita's resignation as a sign of weakness on the part of Kaifu and an eroding ability to make decisions.

"It is easy to give a good appearance ... were they serious about women they would have chosen another woman to replace Moriyama in the environmental agency," Hara said.

Moriyama was replaced by a male deputy, Setsu Shiga.

Muneyuki Shindo, politics professor at Rikkyo University, asked, "What can you expect from Kaifu when he failed to take strong leadership for a problem like this? What can he do for serious problems such as the sales tax and trade?"

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# 'Seven underwater wonders of world' named

A LIST of the "seven underwater wonders of the world" was announced by a panel of marine experts yesterday with the aim of focusing public attention on protecting the world's underwater environment.

"If a concerted effort is not undertaken soon to protect and preserve

our underwater wonders, they — like the classic Seven Wonders of the world — could be lost forever through carelessness, negligence or deliberate mistreatment," said Rick Sammon, president of the sponsoring organization, Cedam International.

The seven underwater wonders,

selected yesterday by the 14-member panel of marine scientists, conservationists and explorers, are:

Belaau, an island group in Micronesia; the northern Red Sea; the Great Barrier Reef of Australia; the waters of the Galapagos Islands off the coast of Ecuador; Lake Baikal in Siberia;

the Belize Barrier Reef and the deep ocean vents in the middle of the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.

An honourable mention went to whales as one of the great living wonders of the seas.

Cedam International is a non-profit group of 1,000 mostly marine

scientists and conservationists that is based at Croton-on-Hudson, New York.

Sammon said selection of the seven underwater wonders signals the start of a Cedam-sponsored educational campaign to "generate an increased global awareness of the world's

beautiful but very fragile marine environment."

The campaign will include collecting data and publishing information packets about the seven sites, a documentary series on the seven wonders, a touring exhibit of underwater photographs, school curricula on

marine conservation and an art-quality photo book.

One of the panelists of marine experts that designated the seven underwater wonders was Scott Carpenter, a former astronaut and deep-sea diving aquanaut for the navy's Sealab project.

# No to vertigo

## Sky-writer crosses Seine

VERTIGO was the last thing on Philippe Petit's mind when he stepped onto a tight-rope stretching from the Palais de Chaillot to the Eiffel Tower yesterday.

"Vertigo only hits people who have time to think. Once I'm on the wire, I'm too busy to feel fear," explained the artiste before his 700-metre (yard) walk 100 metres above the River Seine.

The walk was being hosted by Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac to commemorate the Declaration of Human Rights, adopted 200 years ago by the French Parliament.

Along with a rival ceremony to be held by the culture ministry at the new Arche de la Defense, it marked the last of a series of grandiose Bicentenary events.

But while paying homage to the 1789 Revolution, Petit was clearly more interested in the walk as an expression of his refined art.

"I've wanted 15 years for this spectacle which will 'wake up' Paris and make locals look to the sky for one brief moment of their lives," Petit said in an interview.

Theatre Table was produced by a French manufacturer which closed for two weeks in order to fit Petit in. In contrast, in order to produce the considerably greater Sealab, he remained on rent.

The cable glittered in the sun, looping from the Palais de Chaillot's esplanade, dedicated to the Declaration of Human Rights, up to the second storey of Gustave Eiffel's Iron Lady.

The final 16-degree gradient meant Petit effectively climbed uphill as he soldiered cross with a copy of the historic declaration. He handed the document to Chirac, waiting on the other side.

He thought to keep his balance during the wind up to 20 miles (32 km) an hour.

"All within 100 m to freedom," he said.

"How badly the winds affect you depends on whether or not they zig-zag, come at you straight or sideways, and how tired you are when they hit," says Petit, who carries a small device to measure the force of the gusts.

But Petit would have waited until the day of the performance to discover how dangerous the walk really was. Although he had been training on a wire stretched across a landing strip at a Paris airport, a dress rehearsal was out of the question.

"You can't rehearse a miracle. You do it once and then you go out and have a slap-up meal," he explained.

Saturday's officially-sanctioned walk was an unusual experience for Petit, who until then had specialised in clandestine performances carried out against the wishes of local authorities.

These walks include a 1971 promenade between the belltowers of Paris's Notre Dame Cathedral, a walk above Australia's Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1973 and between the Twin Towers of the World Trade Centre in New York a year later.

"People will always say no, because it's easier than saying yes. I've been arrested more than 500 times, as a street juggler and clandestine tight-rope walker. But never for murder."

Getting permission for the Paris event required a lot of persuasion and, in spite of a large donation by Chirac, funding remained a problem. After six months,

(Agencies)

## 'Nevsky' gets rave reviews

# Russian film 'glows'

A NEWLY restored version of Sergei Eisenstein's 1938 film classic, "Alexander Nevsky," is captivating audiences on a world tour that its producer hopes will carry it triumphantly back to the Soviet Union.

Besides Eisenstein's dramatic black-and-white photography, the screen epic about the 13th century defeat of marauding Teutonic armies by Russian forces led by Prince Nevsky features a rousing musical score by composer Sergei Prokofiev.

"I'd love to take this film home to Russia," said producer John Goberman, who said he is awaiting an overture from Moscow. "The first performance would knock them out. They'd be beside themselves."

At Goberman's "Concert presentation" last night at the outdoor theatre of Wolf Trap Farm Park in suburban Virginia, the audience was to see a fresh print of Eisenstein's 107-minute movie, made from the original nitrate negative in the Moscow Film Archive.

While it was to be shown on a 30-foot (9-metre) screen over the stage, with English subtitles displayed on a smaller screen underneath, Prokofiev's music was to be performed in sync with the film by the National Symphony Orchestra, mezzo-soprano Janice Taylor and a chorus from the Oratorio Society of Washington.

The film has two tracks for remastered dialogue and sound effects, a computer slide track for subtitles and a fourth track that feeds cues to the orchestra conductor.

"The print is so gorgeous, it just glows," Goberman said. "It will make you fall in love with black-and-white film all over again."

The music was another matter. Goberman described the faint, scratchy soundtrack of the original film, performed by a 30-member studio band, in one word: "Horrible."

"The orchestra was clearly having a bad day

with one of the greatest film scores ever written," he said during a break in rehearsals at the Kennedy Centre.

Shortly after Prokofiev completed the 60-minute movie score, he condensed it into his widely performed, 40-minute "Alexander Nevsky Cantata" for mezzo-soprano, chorus and orchestra.

Copies of the original movie score are lost. So Goberman recruited musical arranger William D. Brohn to transcribe the missing 20 minutes of music from the original soundtrack for full orchestra, using the Cantata as a framework.

"We knocked ourselves out to make this music authentic," Goberman said. "We even left in Prokofiev's obvious mistakes. We took the film and added the music we think is what Prokofiev heard in his head. It is fair to say that almost every note is by Prokofiev."

Goberman said performances of "Alexander Nevsky" are booked through next year at the Pompeii festival in Italy, Toronto, San Diego and San Antonio, Texas.

The restored version premiered in Los Angeles in November 1987, and came to Washington after enthusiastic receptions in Cleveland, Philadelphia, London and Hollywood.

Eisenstein is reported to have made the film about Nevsky, a legendary Russian hero, because he had fallen in disfavour and needed a popular hit that would please Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin and his cultural bureaucrats.

For his part, Stalin embraced "Nevsky" as a valuable piece of artistic propaganda to mobilize the Soviet people against a threatened invasion by Nazi Germany.

The movie was shelved after the Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact was signed in 1939, but was shown after the Germans invaded two years later.

TIN Pan Alley was the dismissive term used in the years immediately after World War II to describe the realm of popular music. But Andrew Lloyd Webber, who was born in March 1948 and was therefore in his receptive early teens when the Beatles emerged at the start of the 1960s, did not share this prejudice.

Although he came from a classical music background and loved opera (his father, William Lloyd Webber, was director of the London College of Music and his mother taught the piano), Andrew thought of John Lennon and Paul McCartney, the mainstay of the Beatles, as the greatest songwriters of the age, and assimilated rock-'n'-roll influences as enthusiastically as he did those of the giants of classical music. His ability to bridge these two worlds was quite literally to make his fortune.

In the first years of Andrew Lloyd Webber's life the British musical had an acute inferiority complex vis-a-vis the supremely successful American product. Try as they might, somehow the British could not produce anything to equal shows like "Oklahoma!" "Annie Get Your Gun" and "South Pacific."

Then, at last, it looked as though they were going to find their own voice in an unlikely place, Joan Littlewood's Theatre Workshop in the East End of London. There, Lionel Bart was discovered, and Joan Littlewood's production of Cockney musicals, Bart's "Fings Ain't Wot They Used T'Be" (1959) followed by the successful "Lock Up Your Daughters" (1959), for which Bart wrote the lyrics, and "Oliver!" (1960), for which he wrote both music and lyrics, seemed to confirm that the London stage had found the road to its own authentic musicals.

As the 1960s drew to a close, Bart's great success proved short-lived, but the supremacy of the Broadway musical was successfully challenged in the 1970s by a composer and lyricist from a background vastly different from Bart's East End. Andrew Lloyd Webber and his lyricist partner Tim Rice, who were responsible for "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat" (1968), "Jesus Christ Superstar" (1970) and "Evita" (1978), were middle class English public schoolboys, Webber being educated at Westminster and Rice at Lancing.

*Love of The Theatre*

Although Andrew Lloyd Webber now has a country house in southern England, another in the south of France, and an apartment in Manhattan, New York, he was originally just as much a Londoner as

Bart. Born in Westminster Hospital, he grew up in his parents' flat in well-to-do South Kensington, went to a small, expensive preparatory school nearby and then to Westminster College — so home was definitely central London.

All this meant that the boisterous little boy (nicknamed Bumper) was able to indulge his early love of the theatre not only by building a model of one at home but by frequently visiting the real thing in the nearby West End.

Andrew's mother, Jean, a powerful personality, taught him the piano and he also learned to play the French horn. Mrs Lloyd Webber was a committed socialist and anxious to help the disadvantaged, especially if they had musical gifts.

The importance of Andrew Lloyd Webber's roots in the recording industry cannot be overemphasised because it meant he came to the musical not by way of the traditional book with its spoken dialogue leading to song, but by way of recorded song. This has meant that his musicals consist of a continuous flow of music, with the characters singing all the way, more in the manner of opera, rather than bursting into song after long scenes of spoken dialogue. On the one occasion that Lloyd Webber tried his hand at writing a musical from an original book — Alan Ayckbourn's "Jeeves," based on P.G. Wodehouse's character of that name and premiered in 1975 — it was a flop.

Tim Rice wisely backed out of that project and, despite the success of their earlier ventures, his partnership with Andrew Lloyd Webber was not renewed after "Evita." Friction seems to have developed over their differing personalities. Tim Rice was much liked, having a humorous and relaxed attitude to his work, while Andrew Lloyd Webber was and is a workaholic, a perfectionist with a short fuse, who is concerned not only with the words and music of a show but with every aspect of the production, including the design and technical matters of the lighting and sound.

Some thought that after the break with Tim Rice, Andrew Lloyd Webber's career might be finished. But with "Cats" (1981), for which poems in T.S. Eliot's "Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats" provided the basis for the lyrics, with "Song and Dance" (1982), "Starlight Express" (1984), "Phantom of the Opera" (1986) (lyrics for all three written by Richard Stilgoe), and with "Tell Me On A Sunday" (1980) and this year's "Aspects of Love" (lyrics for both by Don Black) Lloyd Web-

ber has gone from success to success.

His musicals are performed all over the world, and in the United States their commercial triumph has eclipsed the homegrown American product. Through his Really Useful Company he has been able to buy the Palace Theatre in London's Cambridge Circus and restore it to its former glory.

Although, being a perfectionist, he cannot be easy to work for, he has retained the loyalty of the former artistic director of the Royal Shakespeare Company, Trevor Nunn (the director of the stage productions of "Cats," "Starlight Express" and "Aspects of Love") and the impresario Cameron Mackintosh.

Meanwhile, to say that Andrew Lloyd Webber is a busy man is an understatement indeed. He has two children, Imogen and Nicholas, by his first wife, Sarah Hugill (their marriage was dissolved in 1983) and now has a fruitful married partnership with the singer and dancer, Sarah Brightman, who took a leading role in "Phantom of the Opera."

The annual festivals over which the couple preside at their English country home offer the specially invited audience (which is sworn to secrecy) a glimpse of the composer's future projects.

Despite all the awards heaped on his musicals, Lloyd Webber must be dismayed at their failure to attract serious critical praise. However, he is still only 41, and when you recall that one of his musical heroes, Verdi, wrote his last and many think greatest opera, "Falstaff," when he was 80, you realise that Andrew Lloyd Webber still has plenty of time to win the critical plaudits to go with the fabulous wealth and commercial success that are already his.

Andrew and his younger brother, Julian (the cellist, born in 1951) were therefore taken to Leyton, in east London, where their mother had a protege, the future concert pianist, John Lill. On these occasions three boys went to watch and became committed followers of the Leyton Orient football club.

However, because Andrew had a childhood passion for ancient buildings and was good at history, Mrs Lloyd Webber decided that Julian was going to be a musician and Andrew a scholar. She must have been thrilled when Andrew went up to Oxford University to read history at Magdalen College, when still only 17, and dismayed when he gave it up after only a single term. His one-year course in orchestral

ratation at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and subsequent study at the Royal College of Music in 1966 were nearly as brief — and failed equally to produce a sense of commitment in him.

The reason Andrew Lloyd Webber quit Oxford so abruptly was that he had met the lyricist, Tim Rice, who was four years his senior and already working in the music industry for the British company, EMI.

They must have made an odd-looking couple, for though Rice is approaching 2m in height Lloyd Webber is not much over 1.5m. However, they needed one another at that stage of their careers and the partnership flourished after a slow start.

*Enthusiastic Notice*

Together they wrote a musical about the work of the philanthropist Dr Barnard ("The Likes of Us") which has never been performed. They had much better luck with their next project which began as a cantata commission by Alan Doggett, who had taught music at the preparatory school where Andrew and Julian Lloyd Webber had started their education.

By 1966, Mr Doggett had moved on to Colet Court choir school and commissioned the piece for an end-of-term concert. The result of the commission, "Jesus and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat," in its original ten-minute form, first saw the light of day, therefore, in March 1968 before an audience of fairly bored parents.

But the composer and lyricist were more fortunate when an extended version was performed that May in Westminster Central Hall, because one of the parents on that occasion was the popular music critic of "The Sunday Times." He gave it an enthusiastic notice, which let to the piece being given in London's St Paul's Cathedral in November and then being released as a record album the following year.

Because the two were unable to find backers to stage their next controversial project, the rock opera "Jesus Christ Superstar," it first burst upon the world in 1970 in record form. In other words, the normal procedure of putting on a musical and keeping the score a carefully guarded secret until the first night was reversed and the public's appetite was whetted by hearing the music first as a bestselling record.

Rice and Lloyd Webber repeated this ploy with their next venture, "Evita." The British singer and actress Julie Covington's record of the song "Don't Cry For Me, Argentina" became a bestseller in 1977, the year before "Evita" opened at London's Prince Edward Theatre, and two years before its Broadway debut.



Andrew Lloyd Webber: a perfectionist

## Two worlds in one

# Pop opera's showman

By Peter Roberts Editor, "Plays International," London

TIN Pan Alley was the dismissive term used in the years immediately after World War II to describe the realm of popular music. But Andrew Lloyd Webber, who was born in March 1948 and was therefore in his receptive early teens when the Beatles emerged at the start of the 1960s, did not share this prejudice.

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## Brides drowned in the bath

## Killer of lonely hearts

By Lisa Stacey

**COOLLY.** he lifted his new bride's legs out of the bath and pushed her head under the water. Her hands grappled to find the sides of the bath. But her struggle was hopeless... it was all over in minutes.

Margaret Loft's body lay limp in the warm water. She had been murdered the day after her wedding, by the man she had just pledged herself to, George Smith.

But the charming Romeo, who had promised the vicar's daughter a life of wedded bliss, was not quite the charming antique dealer Margaret had fallen in love with.

For lethal womaniser George was a multiple bigamist, who made his living through charming women into stealing for him, marrying them, then murdering them.

His first victim was Bessie Mundy, a simple caring soul who fell for George's dominating charms. After their marriage, he pursued the lonely lady to make out a will and insure herself against the "unlikely" occurrence of her death.

Just hours after the signing of the will, George took Bessie to see an inexperienced young doctor. He confirmed that her headaches could be epilepsy. The next step was simple. George drowned his doting bride in the bath and then collected his evil profits.

The method was so simple and effective that George decided to pursue his callous career. His next victims were Alice Burnham and Margaret Loft. But with Margaret's murder he made a fatal mistake. George was too impatient.

Just one day after the wedding, George drowned Margaret in the bath. The case attracted national press coverage, which led police into a gruesome investigation of bigamy, theft, heartbreak and murder.

George's cunning career began after his first marriage to 18-year-old bootmaker's daughter, Caroline Thornhill. He found it easy to persuade the young girl to steal for him, but it was not long before she was arrested and imprisoned.

## Lonely

Free to look for lonely ladies, George discovered a far easier way of making money out of his dupes. In 1899 he bigamously married a wealthy boarding-house keeper and milked her for every penny she had.

When the money was gone so was George, and he took off on a tour of the South of England, wooing, wedding and walking out on lonely women. Police never discovered just how many he duped.

During this time he also met and married a plump housekeeper in her late twenties, Edith Mabel. But for once this alliance was a love match and George never stole a penny from the woman.

Yet that didn't stop him from pursuing his lonely hearts career, which took a sinister twist when he married spinster Beatrice Mundy. The ardent wench could hardly believe his luck when he discovered that Bessie had £2,500 worth of securities, left to her in her father's will.

But the legacy was managed by a trust of relatives and paid Bessie just £8.00 a month. George quickly collected all the cash he could and in desperation abandoned his new bride. Bessie settled down to her lonely life again, but fate was to deal her a devastating blow.

Just 18 months after George had shattered Bessie's life, the couple bumped into each other at a seaside resort. Within hours the besotted girl was back in the arms of her cruel husband, making plans for the future.

The couple set up home in Kent, and George sought expert advice on how he could get his hands on his wife's £2,500. After discovering that the only way to get to the money was through a will, George wasted no time in getting Bessie to sign over her nest egg to him.



Lethal Romeo: George J. Smith with four of his wives, all lonely, unsuspecting women.

**Notorious bigamist George J. Smith used his charms to prey on lonely, unsuspecting women. He would court them, marry them, take their money... then drown his new brides in their bath.**

The prospect of £2,500 was enough to turn George into a killer. The next day he bought a tapeworm zinc bath and took Bessie to a young, inexperienced doctor claiming that his wife was suffering from fits.

The morning after, that same young doctor got a note from George saying: "Can you come? I'm afraid my wife is dead." He arrived at the house to find Bessie fully submerged in the bath. She was naked and lying on her back, a bar of soap clasped tightly in her hand.

George claimed that his wife had decided to take a bath while he went out to get supper. When he returned, Bessie had drowned.

The police were called, but they saw no reason to suspect foul play. Later the coroner recorded a verdict of misadventure. No one thought to ask how Bessie had managed to drown in a bath far shorter than herself, or why George had left her body fully submerged in that bath water and not tried to save his wife.

After an economy-version funeral, George collected his ill-gotten gains and set out to look for another lonely spinster. Alice Burnham

would be his next victim.

Alice was a short, plump, private nurse with a rich father. She soon fell for the evil charms of George Smith. After a whirlwind romance, the lethal Romeo married her, against her father's wishes, and took her off on holiday. George also took the "kind" step of having his new wife life insured.

The couple travelled to Blackpool for their winter break and called at a boarding house in Adelaide Street. But George rejected the rooms, as there was no bath. They finally found suitable accommodation with Mrs Crossley and settled down for a relaxing break.

Then George began to put his death plan into action. First he consulted a local doctor about his wife's headaches. That evening he asked Mrs Crossley to prepare a bath for Alice. At 8.15 pm the Crossleys were having a meal downstairs, when they noticed water staining the ceiling.

## Sapper

They were about to investigate, when George appeared at their door carrying two eggs, which he had just bought for supper. Then he went upstairs and shouted down: "Fetch the doctor, my wife cannot speak to me."

Alice had been killed the same way as Bessie. At the inquest, George was asked why he had not lifted his wife's body from the bath after the accident, or pulled the plug out. But a verdict of misadventure was again recorded and George collected his loot.

This time George returned to his favourite wife, Edith. But it was not long before he was off to London, where he met and courted a maid named Alice Reaval. Within the month he was back with Edith, with Alice's £80 saving and all her clothes.

The callous truth was, Alice was too poor to be worth killing.

But Margaret Loft was rich and ripe for exploitation. After meeting her in Bath, George asked her to marry him. The couple wed in secret two days later and George again insured his new wife's life. Everything was going smoothly.

They moved to London, taking rooms in Highgate. Naturally they had a bath. But George had become over-confident after the success of his previous killing. This time he was too impatient.

On the evening of their arrival, he took Margaret to see a local doctor. Next morning, he took her to a solicitor, in order to make her will.

By the next evening, Margaret was having a bath. Downstairs the landlady heard splashing about and a noise: "Of someone putting wet hands or arms on the side of the bath."

Ten minutes later the landlady answered the door to George, who claimed he had been out to buy his wife's supper. But Margaret lay upstairs in the bath, drowned. The lonely dupe was buried a couple of days later.

Flushed with success, George returned to Edith, in Bristol. He was totally unaware of the terrible blunder he had made.

Some months later the coroner considered Alice's death an accident. But this time George had been too impatient and the story of the bride dying in her bath made front page news.

By coincidence, Alice Burnham's father and the Blackpool lady, Mrs Crossley, read the story and passed their fears about George Smith to the police. The authorities began investigations and uncovered the amazing tale of the brides in the bath.

George was brought to justice, with the famous pathologist Sir Bernard Spilsbury explaining how Smith could have lifted his brides' legs with his left arm, while pushing their heads under the bath water with his right arm.

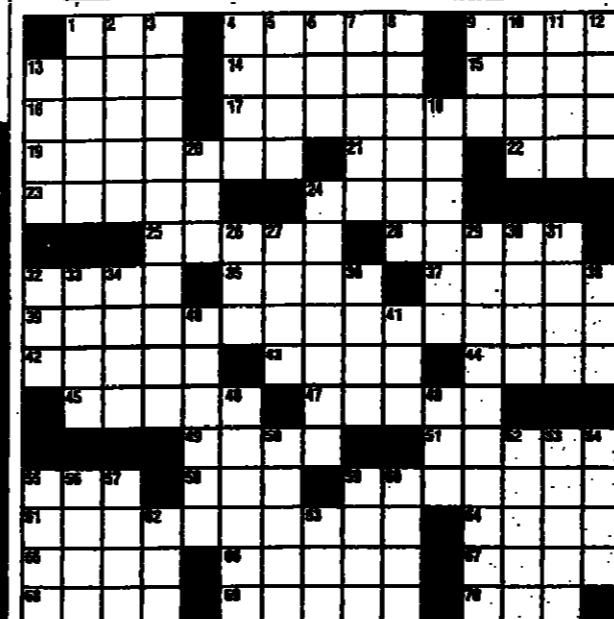
But although the bodies of the three women were exhumed, murder could only be proven in one case, that of Bessie Mundy. And George maintained to the end, that his wives death had been the result of a "phenomenal coincidence."

George Smith was executed on August 13, 1915. Alone. Edith Pegler mourned his death.



An artist's impression of how George asked a landlady to go for the doctor after he had murdered Alice Burnham.

## TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS	DOWN	ACROSS	DOWN
1 Extreme degree	66 "But only God can make —"	34 Like tea in summer	35 Shag
4 Flavill	67 Soaks hamp	36 Scorch	38 Onager
9 A Turner	68 Aroused from sleep	40 Overturns	41 Perform a christy
13 Writer Ephron	69 Ear parts	41 Landlord's income	46 Lotto's relative
14 Thespian	70 Ring decisions:	42 Work by	48 NCO
15 So be it	Abbr.	31 Down	50 With an — the ground: alert
16 The Terrible tar	DOWN	2 Exchange	52 Western show
17 Sign of disapproval	1 Work by	3 Carefully selected	53 Makes a sweater
19 Itinerant salesmen	31 Down	4 Head	54 Swift jets
21 Floor cleaner	2 Exchange	5 Human rights org.	55 Part of GBS
22 RR terminal	3 Carefully selected	6 R-V link	56 Lotto's relative
23 Catnapped	4 Head	7 Broadway's	57 Jerk
24 Bronte's Jane	5 Human rights org.	8 Garden bowsers	59 Snick-or—
25 Eastern religion	6 R-V link	9 Youngstar	60 Long time
28 Britches	7 Broadway's	10 Andy's pal	62 Bambi's mother
32 Of the ear	8 Garden bowsers	11 Salamander	63 Earth; for one
35 Singer-actor Burt	9 Youngstar	12 Actress Neagie	64 Genetic initials
37 Venomous snake	10 Andy's pal	13 Bites	59 Food fishes
39 Frolic	11 Salamander	18 Address	61 Obstinate
42 Precipitous	12 Actress Neagie	20 USA officers	62 Mine entrance
43 Neighbor of Minn.	13 Bites	24 Corrected	63 Domini
44 Golf bag items	18 Address	26 Sass	31 Writer
45 Stranger	20 USA officers	27 Shakespeare's river	32 Approvals, for short
47 "Love Story" author Segal	24 Corrected	29 Obey	33 Josip Broz
49 Requisite	26 Sass	30 Busy as —	34 Like tea in summer
51 — up: cheers	27 Shakespeare's river	31 Writer	35 Shag
55 The limit, at times	29 Obey	32 Approvals, for short	36 Scorch
58 Genetic initials	30 Busy as —	33 Josip Broz	38 Onager
59 Food fishes	31 Writer	34 Like tea in summer	40 Overturns
61 Obstinate	32 Approvals, for short	35 Shag	41 Perform a christy
64 Mine entrance	33 Josip Broz	36 Scorch	42 Work by
65 — Domini	34 Like tea in summer	37 Venomous snake	43 Neighbor of Minn.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF  
GET SMART, USE CONTROL

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♦ K 10 2  
♥ 8 4 3  
♦ A J 9 7  
♣ K J 8

**WEST**  
♦ 8 6 5 3  
♥ A K Q 9 7  
♦ Q 5  
♣ 4 2

**EAST**  
♦ 9 4  
♥ 6 5 2  
♦ K 10 8 4 3  
♣ 7 6 3

**SOUTH**  
♦ A Q J 7  
♥ J 10  
♦ 6 2  
♣ A Q 10 9 5

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ 1 ♠ 2 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass  
4 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠

The late Alphonse "Sonny" Moys was a staunch proponent of the theory that a 4-3 fit provides an excellent trump suit. That might be so, but it requires careful technique to maintain control of the hand.

North-South conducted an immaculate auction to reach the only makable game. Note that, in five clubs, declarer has no way to avoid losing three tricks in the red suits.

West cashed the king and queen of hearts, then continued with the ace. If the spades break 3-3, declarer

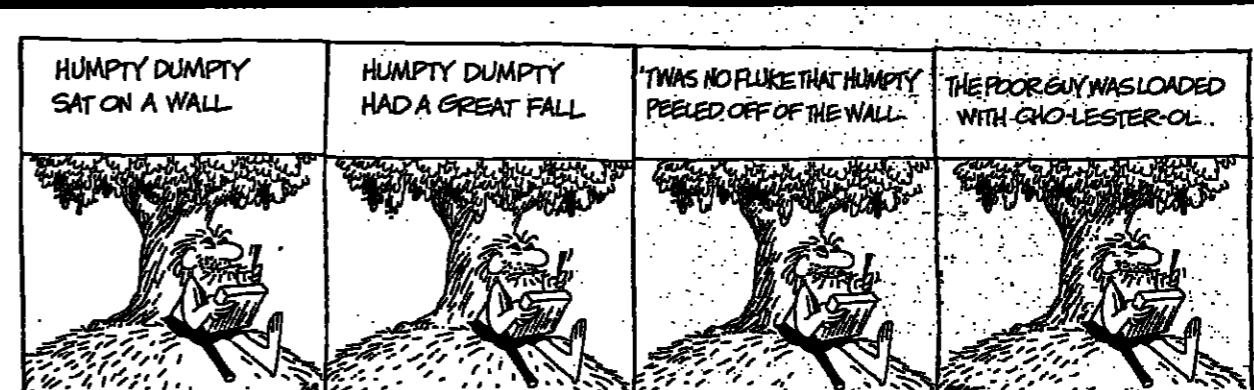
## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

FROSH	ASKA	SPA
PENTA	SKIN	SHAG
ADORN	PARA	CHUTE
DRAGNET	ROOTED	
WINNIE	BAGO	
REPINE	DUNSTAN	
ALARM	ORT	TMAN
ISNT	CANTH	HIDE
DISH	LST	ELIA
EYELASH	ALBERT	
ACTING	MORSELS	
CHANGES	SINKS	
RIND	RICKE	OZZIE
STES	NEEDS	



By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

## B.C.



## YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You will not be in the best of moods and will have to try not to get into an argument. Make sure you do not do anything injurious to your health. Do not let some setback get you down. Be helpful.	Do not allow others to get on your nerves, try to spend a little while by yourself. You will be able to make good progress with a personal master. Make sure you do not drink to the point where you lose control of yourself. Be careful.	Make sure you do not leave any bills unpaid. Do your best to avoid or to clear up a misunderstanding. You will be able to make a few changes for the better. Be sincere.	You are liable to say more than you had intended, so watch it. Make sure you are as good as your word. Your lucky

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Kuwait trade volume surges

## Market indices dip

THE Alshaij Index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 38.71 points with a slight decrease of 0.07 point — 0.18 per cent — from last week's average.

The Alshaij Index for non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies reached 68.29, with a decrease of 0.20 point — 0.29 per cent — for the same period, according to Alshaij weekly market report.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 23.20 million shares at a daily average of 4,645 million shares with an increase of 21 per cent over the previous week's daily average of 3.85 million shares.

Non-Kuwaiti traded shares reached 2.19 million shares at a daily average of 0,438 million shares with a decrease of 48 per cent from last week's daily average of 0,850 million shares.

The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD\$8.10 million at a daily average of KD1.62 million, a decrease of 19 per cent from last week's daily average of KD2.01 million.

The value of non-Kuwaiti traded shares was KD\$0.075 million at a daily average of KD0.015 million, a decrease of 35 per cent from last week's daily average of KD0.023 million.

For the Kuwaiti shares market, the banking sector came first at 52 per cent of total trading against 70 per cent last week.

The National Bank of Kuwait led at 27 per cent followed by Kuwait Finance House at 24 per cent and The Commercial Bank at 18 per cent.

The investment sector came second at 31 per cent in which Kuwait Investment Projects Company had the lead at 94 per cent followed by National Investments Company at 5 per cent and Commercial Facilities Company at 1 per cent. The services sector came third at 7 per cent in which Mobile Telephone Systems Company had the lead at 73 per cent followed by Commercial Markets Company at 15 per cent and Public Warehousing Company at 12 per cent.

As for the non-Kuwaiti shares market, Arabian General Investment Company (SHUAA) led at 38 per cent followed by Umm AlQasim Cement Company at 22 per cent followed by Gulf Medical Projects at 18 per cent.

The market gave signs of weak performance — contrary to last week's — which was reflected on most indices in both Kuwaiti and non-Kuwaiti markets.

The concentration in trading in shares of the banking sector and in particular some of its listed companies has decreased mainly due to the increase in prices of these shares during last week.

The market has not retained its active performance for a minimum period of two weeks in order to be able to explain the increase in activity, which was witnessed last week, as a seasonal phenomena which occurs from time to time due to different causes.

"We believe that one or two short periods of active performance are likely to occur before the end of the present year, one as a result of expected government measures and the second as a result of the year-end seasonal changes together with political desire and early projections of companies' performances."

### Kuwait shareholding companies index

	Wed.	Wed.	Change
	23/08/89	16/08/89	points
Banking Sector			
The National Bank	116.94	116.94	—
The Gulf Bank	31.92	32.36	-0.44
The Commercial Bank	24.15	24.15	—
Al Ahli Bank	30.28	29.77	0.50
Total Index			
M. East	31.44	31.44	—
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	28.71	28.71	—

Burgan Bank	27.06	27.58	-0.52
Kuwait Finance House	78.27	78.27	—
Sector Index	47.37	47.46	-0.09
Investment Sector			
Kuwait Investment Co.	13.77	13.77	—
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	11.00	11.00	—
IFA	48.90	48.90	—
Commercial Facilities	116.88	118.25	-1.38
National Investments	62.75	62.75	—
Kuwait Investment Proj.	93.26	94.38	-1.12
Sector Index	31.55	31.71	-0.16
Insurance Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	35.28	35.88	-0.60
Gulf Insurance Co.	24.62	24.62	—
Al Ahlia Insurance Co.	48.80	48.80	—
Warba Insurance Co.	54.98	54.98	—
Sector Index	35.74	36.05	-0.31
Real Estate Sector			
Kuwait Real Estate	16.31	16.57	-0.25
United Realty	5.60	5.60	—
National Real Estate	35.83	35.83	—
Pearl of Kuwait	74.60	72.22	2.38
Sector Index	16.75	16.88	0.07
Industrial Sector			
Kuwait Cement Co.	12.13	11.59	0.55
Refrigeration Indust.	77.96	79.06	-1.10
Gulf Cables	112.00	112.00	—
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	70.22	73.78	-3.56
Sector Index	30.29	30.11	0.19
Services Sector			
Kuwait Computer Co.	155.52	155.52	—
Kuwait Cinema Co.	8.56	8.56	—
Public Warehousing Co.			
Kuwait Comm.	69.70	69.70	—
Markets Co.	36.83	36.83	—
Mobile Telephone Syst.	285.71	285.71	—
Sector Index	55.09	55.09	—
Food Sector			
Livestock Trad. & Transp.	30.51	30.51	—
United Fisheries	10.62	10.62	—
Kuwait United Poultry	84.34	84.34	—
Kuwait Food Co.	67.82	68.97	-1.15
Sector Index	35.98	36.18	-0.20
Overall Index	38.71	38.78	-0.07

### Non-Kuwaiti shareholding companies index

	Wed.	Wed.	Change
	23/08/89	16/08/89	points
First Gulf Bank	223.68	223.68	—
Bahrain Internat. Bank	88.28	88.28	—
Bahrain M. East Bank	89.22	89.22	—
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	78.10	78.10	—
Arabian Gen. Inv.			
(SHUAA)	43.94	44.70	-0.76
Umm Al Qasim Cement	15.00	15.38	-0.37
Gulf Medical Projects	21.46	21.78	-0.32
Total Index	68.29	68.50	-0.20

Base period 31/12/1983.

All the companies listed by the Stock Exchange under non-Kuwaiti companies are included.

## US boosts exports to Moscow, China

### Budget deficit for '90 will be \$116.2b

WASHINGTON, Aug. 26, (UPI): The United States greatly expanded its trade with the socialist countries and enjoyed a surplus of \$353 million in the first quarter of 1989, the government reported today.

The quarterly balance with these countries was the first favourable one since January-March 1986, the US International Trade Commission said.

The turnaround from an American merchandise trade deficit of \$136.6 million with the Non-Market Economy Countries in January-March 1988 was entirely due to an increase in the surplus with the Soviet Union, from \$738 million to \$1.3 billion, according to the ITC.

The United States' deficit with China, at \$812.6 million, and Eastern Europe, at \$100.9 million, widened only slightly from the first quarter of 1988.

Total US merchandise trade with the NMES expanded to \$5.9 billion in the first quarter from 4.6 billion in January-March 1988.

US exports to socialist countries increased 42.1 per cent to \$3.2 billion, and imports from these countries grew 18.9 per cent to \$2.8 billion, the commission said.

The rise in exports was led by an surge in corn, mainly to the Soviet Union; and substantial increases in wheat to both the Soviet Union and China, the ITC noted. The expansion in imports continued to be dominated by US purchases of manufactured goods and food from China.

US exports to the Soviet Union climbed to \$1.5 billion in the first quarter from \$900.1 million in January-March 1988. Exports to China also reached \$1.5 billion, up from \$1.1 billion in the first quarter of 1988.

US exports to Eastern Europe fell to \$228.5 million from \$250.7 million.

Wheat was the single largest commodity among US exports to the NMES in the first quarter, at

### Toyota's sales reach nearly \$48.9b

TOKYO, Aug. 26, (AP): Toyota Motor Corp. has become Japan's first manufacturing company registering sales of more than 7 trillion yen (\$48.9 billion) in the business year ending June 1989, a company official said today.

Toyota's overall sales were 7.191 trillion yen (\$30.2 billion), up 7.5 per cent over the previous term, Toyota spokesman Hajime Sakaguchi said.

"Thanks to Japan's robust economy, the domestic market for automobiles has expanded due partly to an average 9 per cent decline in car prices," following a reform of the tax system in April, Sakaguchi said.

The report said Toyota's pre-tax earnings rose 9.2 per cent to 569.86 billion yen (\$3.985 billion) from the previous year's 521.706 billion yen (\$3.648 billion).

With its latest unconsolidated pre-tax profits, Toyota was the nation's most profitable company for the second consecutive year, surpassing the 425.9

## Gas find may be biggest ever

STAVANGER, Norway, Aug. 26, (AP): A giant offshore natural gas field discovered by the Soviet Union in the Arctic last year is probably the richest ever found, a Norwegian newspaper reported yesterday.

A new well drilled to assess the Barents Sea find showed it could be several times larger than the Norway's Troll field, previously the biggest known offshore deposit, reported newspaper Stavanger Aftenbladet.

Researchers from Norway's private Fridtjof Nansen Institute told the newspaper that they learned details of the find during a visit to Moscow's Academy of Science. The newspaper said the information was confirmed by other Norwegian sources.

It holds an estimated three to four trillion cubic metres (106-141 trillion cubic feet) of natural gas compared to the 1.3 trillion cubic metres (46 trillion cubic feet) at Troll, reported Aftenbladet.

Meanwhile, Norway has said all oil platforms in its sector of the North Sea would have to install underwater electronic devices so that submarines could identify them and steer clear.

In March last year, a West German submarine crashed into a Norwegian oil platform on the Oseberg field. The accident cost about \$14 million in damages, which Bonn agreed to pay.

The government-funded oil directorate said each device would transmit a special noise that could be picked up by sonar systems on submarines patrolling the strategically important waters off the coast of NATO member Norway.

### For Rent

1 store, 350 sq. metres in Shuwaikh. Also offices for rent in Salmiya

Contact Tel. 4810044-4815120

### Situation vacant

Accountant to work at newly established travel agency holding airline tickets stocks, preferably good knowledge of airline/travel agency accounts. Contact with bio-data at tel. 2418888/2418333

### JOB OPPORTUNITY

Join one of the world's largest luxury hotel chains

The Kuwait Sheraton Hotel

has a vacancy for a

### FEMALE SECRETARY

With an attractive salary and benefits

Candidates Should be fluent in English and Arabic, capable of self correspondence and handling office and administrative work. Transferable residence No. 18 is a must. Knowledge of w/p would be an advantage.

Please contact with C.V. and copies of certificates our Personnel Manager between 9.00 am to 4.00 pm. Tel: 2422055 Ext. 927

شیراتون الكويت  
Kuwait Sheraton Hotel  
The hospitality people of ITT

### Iran's budget deficit to shrink

## Oil income set to rise

### Energy meeting planned

VIENNA, Aug. 26, (OPECNA): The 14th congress of the world energy conference is scheduled to be held in Montreal, Canada, on September 18-21 where experts from all over the world will discuss and examine aspects of the global energy situation.

The world energy conference, which is a progressive organisation, holds its congress every three years, the last of which was held in Cannes, France, in 1986.

The five-day gathering will discuss a number of papers, including energy and industrial evolution, energy planning or drafting to disaster, financing of energy programmes; private or public, energy policies and the public, what to do now about the greenhouse effect and energy for tomorrow in the developing world.

Non-oil exports were expected to fetch \$12.86 billion.

## Takeovers power stock market to a record high

## Higher rates drive operating income into the red

NEW YORK, Aug 26, (UPI): Takeovers and programme buying powered the stock market to a record high in a week that saw no major economic news from vacationing Washington and brouhaha over publisher Malcolm Forbes' birthday party.

Holiday Corp. sold its debt-burdened Holiday Inn division to Bass PLC, the British brewer and hotelier; Texas Air said it would consider selling Continental Airlines.

Eastman Kodak Co. and Campbell Soup Co. laid off substantial numbers of workers in belt-tightening measures.

And the government said the nation's savings and loan industry lost \$3.7 billion from April through June as higher interest rates drove operating income into the red.

On Thursday, the New York Stock Market staged one of its most explosive rallies of the year, driving the Dow Jones industrial average up 56.53 points to its all-time closing high of

2734.64.

The Dow's stunning close eclipsed the previous all-time high of 2722.42 set Aug. 25, 1987, which marked the high point of a five-year rally.

Six weeks later, on Oct. 19, 1987, the closely followed blue-chip indicator plummeted 508 points to 1738.74 for its greatest point loss in history.

Most analysts do not expect a recurrence of that collapse, but some expressed concerns about whether stocks will sustain their gains over the next few days.

Analysts said news that Holiday Corp. agreed to sell its Holiday Inns chain to Bass for \$2.2 billion set the stage for the rally. Investors rushed in to buy hotel and casino issues as well as stocks in the broader market.

In London, Bass said the acquisition would make the conglomerate the owner of the largest hotel chain in the world.

The Holiday Inn chain accounts for

10 per cent of total hotel rooms in the United States and more than 25 per cent of rooms in the mid-price sector. Holiday last year sold its Holiday Inns outside North America to Bass.

As part of the deal, Bass will assume approximately \$2.1 billion of Holiday debt.

In Houston on Thursday, Texas Air Corp. chairman Frank Lorenzo said the company has talked with potential bidders about the sale of a minority or controlling interest in its Continental Airlines subsidiary.

Texas Air, which also owns Eastern Airlines, has hired the investment firm Drexel Burnham Lambert to handle inquiries about the sale of Continental.

A class action suit was filed against UAL Corp. Tuesday in Chicago on behalf of stockholders demanding a fair and open auction of the airline and accusing directors of trying to circumvent a \$6.2 billion takeover bid by

Los Angeles investor Marvin Davis.

UAL, parent of United Airlines, is at the center of what could become a bidding war, with Davis on record with a \$275 share bid and other groups reportedly preparing offers.

Meanwhile, publisher Malcolm Forbes was defending the opulent 70th birthday bash he threw for himself in Morocco last weekend.

Addressing reporters in the Forbes magazine building in Manhattan, he said "not a penny" of the \$2 million tab would be used as a tax deduction even though most of the guests were advertisers.

On Wednesday, Eastman Kodak Co., which recently announced an 85 per cent decrease in net income, said it is laying off 4,500 employees worldwide as part of an effort to cut costs.

Colby Chandler, chief executive officer of the Rochester, New York-based photo giant, said he hoped the move would generate \$1 billion in

operating cash flow in the upcoming year.

Analysts noted the company has had a large debt to contend with since the acquisition of sterling drug.

In another cost-cutting move Thursday, Campbell Soup Co. of Camden, New Jersey, announced plans to save \$150 million over the next four years by closing four domestic plants.

The closings in Camden, Pocomoke City and Crisfield, Maryland, and Smyrna, Tennessee, will eliminate 2,800 jobs, the company said. A one-time writeoff of \$344 million, or \$2.01 a share, is to be charged to earnings for the fiscal year that ended July 30.

In Pittsburgh Thursday, USX Corp., the nation's No. 1 steelmaker, said it is restoring pay cuts and benefit reductions imposed on 5,500 white-collar workers during lean times in the early 1980s.

On Sept. 1, about 1,400 hourly non-union employees will see a restoration

of the 5 per cent pay cut they took in 1983, the company said.

Wednesday, struggling Wang Laboratories Inc. of Lowell, Massachusetts, chose Richard W. Miller, an executive with wide experience at troubled companies, as its president and chief operating officer.

The choice of Miller, a former top executive with General Electric Co. and RCA Corp., is another sign the family-controlled company is moving quickly to address its growing financial problems. Earlier in the week the computer maker renegotiated its bank debt with a group of lending banks.

In Washington Tuesday, the government's office of thrift supervision said the nation's savings and loan industry lost \$3.7 billion from April through June, \$200 million worse than the first quarter, as higher interest rates drove operating income into the red and steep write-downs of assets continued.

Mane Said Al Oteiba

## UAE urges drop in oil, gas output

ABU DHABI, Aug 26, (Reuters): The United Arab Emirates should cut its output of oil and gas to maintain reserves, the Planning Ministry said yesterday.

The official Wam news agency quoted the ministry's annual report as saying oil and gas were the best investment for the country's future and that reserves should be made to last as long as possible.

A Reuters survey shows that UAE oil output has risen since last year and that last month it produced 1.8 million barrels per day (BPD), compared with its OPEC-assigned sales quota of 1.041 million BPD.

The UAE, whose main export is oil, has argued that its quota should be raised because of the size of its reserves, estimated officially at about 100 billion barrels. They would last more than 100 years at the current production rate.

Oil Minister Mane Said Al Oteiba said early this year the UAE should exploit its oil reserves before an alternative world energy source emerged.

The Planning Ministry said production should be linked to development requirements and to diversifying sources of income.

Meanwhile, public and private investment in the United Arab Emirates from 1976-85 reached \$73.88 billion, the Ministry of Planning has disclosed here.

A study on the economic and social development of the country, says investments totalling \$33.67 billion were recorded up to 1980, while the remaining transactions worth 40.21 billion were made in the following five years.

Light industry played a significant role in the performance, especially in construction activities and the diversification of the country's infrastructure.

Economy may weaken further

## Fed decided to cut rates in July

WASHINGTON, Aug 26, (AP): Federal Reserve policymakers voted to nudge US interest rates lower in July, but they worried about reinvigorating inflation by going too far, according to minutes of the meeting released yesterday.

The Federal Open Market Committee, noting fairly consistent weakness in housing and consumer spending, voted 10-1 at the end of its July 5-6 meeting to lower short-term interest rates.

Subsequently, the benchmark federal funds rate — the rate banks charge each other for overnight loans — fell twice, in quarter-point increments, to 9 per cent.

It was the third credit-easing move by the American Central Bank since early June after the federal funds rate hit a peak of more than 9.75 per cent. The first loosening move had ended a yearlong programme that increased the rate by three percentage points in an effort to tackle inflationary pressures.

However, since last month, the Fed has held interest rates steady and the minutes indicate many members believed additional easing would be unwise in the absence of further indications of lagging economic growth.

"Many emphasized that current economic and financial uncertainties called for caution in adjusting policy at this point," the minutes said. "In this view, more than a slight move to less restraint could have an undesirable effect on inflationary expectations."

"In the view of some members, there remained some risk that inflationary pressures would intensify and that the easing might have to be reversed later," the minutes said.

Martha Seger was the only committee member to dissent and H. Robert Heller, who earlier had announced his intention to resign from the Fed, was absent.

The minutes indicate Seger believed the economy had slowed "substantially" and likely would weaken further next year unless the Central Bank pushed rates down more sharply than the majority decided.

The Open Market Committee is composed of the seven Federal Reserve Board governors and five of the 12 presidents of regional federal reserve banks. It meets privately about eight times a year.

## Economy set to expand further

Japan's businesses ready to increase capital investment

TOKYO, Aug 26, (UPI): Japan's economy continued to expand for 33 consecutive months through August or the third longest postwar period amid deepening economic interdependence of nations in the world, official reports said yesterday.

The government's Economic Planning Agency said in a monthly report that robust domestic demand, fuelled by strong personal spending and corporate fixed investment, continued to stimulate the domestic economy.

"I don't think the current trend will change at least for the months to come," an official of the Economic Planning Agency said, expressing optimism over Japan's near-term economic outlook.

The 33-month stretch of growth compared with a 57-month span, starting in 1965, and a 42-month period, starting in 1959, the agency said.

"Japan is one of the nations enjoying the greatest benefits of free trade, which has brought forth the close interdependence of nations," said an annual report by the semi-government Japan External Trade Organisation.

The report said trade among Japan, North America and

Europe accounted for more than 70 per cent of total world trade in 1988.

Exports by the United States grew 25.5 per cent to \$308.1 billion, decreasing the country's trade deficit to \$31.7 billion from \$17 billion in 1987, the report said.

It said exports by the European Economic Community totalled \$1.06 trillion, up 11.4 per cent.

"The world economy is characterized in part by an interdependence of nations, which has been serving as a foundation of world peace," the report said. "Today, the mechanism for achieving growth through international trade includes even socialist countries such as the Soviet Union, and the economy of the world is ready to evolve as a global economy in real sense."

With improved living standards, Asian newly industrialized economies and countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) have emerged as "enormous consumption markets," the report said.

The proportion of the Asia-Pacific region in global trade increased to 24.5 per cent in 1987 from 16.7 per cent in 1980.

"Above all, remarkable expansion of international trade took place centring around Asian nations and ASEAN members," the report said.

On the domestic scene, the Economic Planning Agency's report said the strength in personal consumption was observed in household spending for June, which rose an inflation-adjusted 0.7 per cent over a year ago.

Japanese corporations, both in manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors, have been bolstering investment in plant and equipment in anticipation of bright business and earning prospects, the report said.

It said Japan's current account surplus, a broad measure of trade in goods and services, has been narrowing with high-pitched growth in imports.

The report said sales picked up in May and June after a slump in April, when Japan's first 3 per cent sales tax was introduced.

In the wholesale sector, active corporate investments drove sales of trading companies sharply higher although sales of clothing were sluggish, the report said.

Automobile sales marked a double-digit rise of 28.4 per cent, thanks to the sales tax, which brought the tax on car sales down to a uniform 6.0 per cent from the 18.5-23.0 per cent under the old commodity tax system, the report said.

The agency noted that both wholesale and consumer prices remained stable and the employment situation improved with the ratio of job openings to job seekers standing at 1.34, an

improvement from 1.27 in May and 1.16 in April.

Japan's commercial sales in the April-June period rose 6.0 per cent over a year ago to 139.49 trillion yen (\$98.24 billion), the Ministry of International Trade and Industry reported yesterday.

The ministry said the report was based on a survey of more than 6,000 wholesalers and 9,000 retailers across the nation.

The report said combined sales of wholesalers totalled 110.63 trillion yen (\$77.91 billion), up 6.7 per cent, while those of retailers amounted to 28.86 trillion yen (\$20.3 billion), up 3.1 per cent.

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Addressing a group of business leaders here, he expressed doubts that the rapid growth enjoyed by the industrialized countries over the past seven years would be sustained into the 1990s.

But he stressed there was no cause for excessive worry as "it is a normal thing, part of a cycle" to which the world economy had always been subject.

The main indicators drawn in support of his conclusions were cited as the oil price collapse of 1986, the stock market crash of 1987, the continuing decline in primary commodity prices, spiralling interest rates, dollar depreciation, the United States budget deficit and recent upheavals in international currency rates.

Widjojo said he wondered whether it would be possible for industrialized countries to sustain growth, while debt in the developing world accumulated in the wake of continuing high interest rates.

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## EVENTS

## WHAT'S ON

## ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum  
OPEN-SAT: Wed., 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from all around Kuwait; including blue whale. Closed on Thursdays and Fridays.

Islamic Arts Museum  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 4.00 to 7.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts; ceramics, carpets and marine equipment.

Tareq Rajab Museum  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Fridays: 9 am to 12 noon. Collection of Islamic arts, costumes and jewellery from the Muslim world.

Sadu House  
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon; 4 to 7 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts; rags, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

## SOCIAL

Farewell party  
SEPT 1 (Friday): The Bangladeshi Association will organise a farewell function for the Economic Counsellor Abdur Rahim Khan at 7 pm at the Bangladeshi embassy premises.

Bangladeshis are requested to contact for details with following persons: Moaz 4310970, Yusuf 4314943, Maksudur Rahman 4881595, Moazzamul Haque 2551312, Ashraf Islam 4836235 and Abdur Rob 4316823.

People's Art Circle  
A MEETING was held at Dr Riaz A. Mahees's president Pakistan People's Club, residence to form a committee to organise musical shows and dramas. As per Raheeq A Mirza, general secretary Pakistan People's Club, People's Art Circle formed and is headed by Yakub Pasha with the following committee members: Salman Shah, Ustian Manzoor ul Hassan, Samie Sani, Syed Zafar, Mohd Musli Bouch, Qamar Pervez and Agha Saeed.

Kalpat exhibition  
SEPT 15: Women's wing of Kerala Art and Literature Promoting Association of Kuwait (Kalpat) will hold an exhibition of arts and handicrafts at the Indian embassy hall from 3 pm to 8 pm. Those interested to show their own

creation, please contact on telephone Nos: 5632708/4316737/5626620.

Syndicate live  
SEPT 15: In a rare spirit of comaraderie, two leading Goan organisations in Kuwait, the Weekend Club and Kuwait Goans, will jointly host a "Syndicate Live," a musical extravaganza, at the Indian Arts Circle auditorium, featuring Goa's one and only, The Syndicate, with Kuwait's Top Ranks, Perfect Strangers and Stepping Stones with a host of local artistes. Watch out for booking plans.

Melody Night '89  
AN evening of popular Indian music by local stars from 6.30 pm to 10 pm on Friday 3rd Sept '89, at the Sharq Co-op. Society Hall. For details contact Tel: 5640389 between 3.00 pm and 10.00 pm or Al Bahr Video, Tel: 5615730.

Filcheck chess  
SEPT 26: The Filipino Chess Club in Kuwait (Filcheck) invites all Filipino Chess enthusiasts to join the first "Active Chess Tournament."

Attractive prizes await the lucky winners. Entry forms are available at Kabayan Restaurant. Deadline for submission of entries is Sept 15. For more details contact Edward Racaza (2421868, 2402405), Chito (2443961) or Jun (2409650).

Breeze '89  
OCT 25: Tivim Centre's - Breeze '89 is going to hit the floors of Ramada Al Salam hotel New Ballroom at a social evening organised in commemoration of village festival. Top Rank and Stepping Stones will provide scintillating music, lots of surprises await. For further information pls contact the organisers, Casmir or Mario on Tel. No. 2441860/673/2227.

British Council  
THE British Council presents "Briefing on Britain," a special video presentation for students who are going to Britain this autumn for higher education. Will this be your first experience of studying in Britain? If so, and if you would like to participate in complimentary briefing sessions please telephone us to find out more details. Contact Kate Harness, Education Adviser, Tel: 2515572/253/3204/253/3227.

FILM  
British Council  
CHILDREN film: The Little Prince-For the Love of Animals on Wednesday, Aug 30 at 6.00 pm and Thursday, Aug 31 at 10.30 pm.

Star Nite  
DEC 21: Star Nite at Ramada Salam 'Al Dira' with Perfect Strangers music. Children entry KD.3/- from 2-1/2 years to 12 years. Others KD.4/- with sumptuous buffet. Fabulous hamper prizes and variety social entertainment under 555 sponsorship. For reservations contact tele. (res.) 5331940 or 2413706 pm only.

Flassik's contest  
FINAL preparations are now under way for the ultimate singing contest in Kuwait held for the Filipino population in this state.

Flassik president Grace Fe N. Covarrubias announced that auditions are held at the Far East Restaurant on Fridays, August 18 and 25 and 11 am and 4pm and on Sundays August 13, 20 and 27 at 5pm. Participants are encouraged to bring their music tapes.

Last Friday's auditions yielded a bevy of song lovers who will vie for valuable prizes during the contest slated for Friday September 1, at 4pm, at the Meridien Hotel.

For more particulars, kindly contact the following Flassik officers: Charly Nepomuceno Tel. 5624509, Rose Formante: 4843601, Malon Tadeña: 4881358, Esther Madamba: 5312700 ext 4221, Marilyn Inducto: 3940600 ext 2230 & 4521 and other Flassik officers or the event vice-chairman Al Castro of Martin Marietta Data Systems.

D'Assisi Association  
OCTOBER 6: Ninth annual Thanksgiving mass will be held at the Holy Family Cathedral at 8 am followed by a get-together after mass. All D'Assisi ex-students along with their families and friends are invited. For more details contact: 244379 or 2469811.

Konkani drama  
NOVEMBER 2, 3: The new GOA presents M. Boyer's "Chintam Zallim Sopnam" at the IAC (Funaites). Cast includes the Charlie Chaplin of Goa 'Jacinto Vaz' along with Remy Colaco, Seby Coutinho, Betty Naz and others. For tickets contact Canary Video (Sharp) or Video Club (near GPO).

FILM  
British Council  
CHILDREN film: The Little Prince-For the Love of Animals on Wednesday, Aug 30 at 6.00 pm and Thursday, Aug 31 at 10.30 pm.

An enchanting animated adaptation of the classical tale by Antoine de Saint Exupery. Join the little prince as he catches a flaming comet for a ride down to his favourite planet earth! (running time 50 mins)

Admission is free, but it is advisable to book seats in advance. Tel: 2515512/2533204/2533204.

## HOTELS

## At the Pullman Hotel

AL Shallal coffee shop: Offers daily businessman's lunch "autour d'un plat" at a reasonable price. Serves Arabic and international dishes. Live music nightly from 7.30pm.

Les Elysees Restaurant: Experience the ambience of French seating and meticulous service while savouring authentic French food offered on our "menu degustation," a four course meal served with a touch of nouvelle cuisine. All these and more for only KD.2.995.

Special lunch and dinner: Also at Al Shallal coffee shop the breakfast you like most. Full buffet of all kind of delicious dishes to be savoured by you. Eat as much as you can and whatever dish you fancy for only KD.995 only.

Roman nights: The Italian restaurant in the heart of Kuwait takes you to the heart of Rome. Enjoy our exotic Italian specialties and our wide variety of Italian dishes with the music of our resident duo Stan and Alice.

## SPORTS

## Fit for life

LADIES' Keep Fit classes at La Palma Fitness Centre at the Kuwait International on Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. Free use of the pool after each session plus free use of the sauna on Tuesdays. Also judo, karate and taekwondo classes. Individual coaching for tennis and swimming available.

EDAM: Wide variety of delectable home-made goodies, freshly baked items to choose from. Edam daily specials also available.

CLOCK: Only drive-in restaurant in Kuwait. Serves wide selections of fast food including our very own specialities.

## At the Kuwait International

LA PALMA: Presents a culinary trip around the world featuring authentic Chinese, Indian, Mexican, African, Italian, British, German/Austrian, Turkish and Arabic dishes. Theme nights on Saturdays and Tuesdays. Ext 8166.

Falka: Rooftop restaurant overlooking Kuwait's picturesque coastline. Offers international cuisine and elegant surroundings. Live entertainment during dinner. Closed on Sept 2.

Friday. Ext. 8012.

Garden Pool: Relax and enjoy our poolside barbecue every Friday afternoon.

La Patisserie: Offers an extensive selection of pastries, oven fresh bread, savouries, exotic juices and ice creams. Also serves Continental breakfast. Pianist in the evenings.

## At the Kuwait Plaza hotel

SPECIAL breakfast: Al-Dalah coffee shop features the breakfast you like most. Full buffet of all kind of delicious dishes to be savoured by you. Eat as much as you can and whatever dish you fancy for only KD.995 only.

Special lunch and dinner: Also at Al-Dalah coffee shop the breakfast you like most. Full buffet of all kind of delicious dishes to be savoured by you. Eat as much as you can and whatever dish you fancy for only KD.995 only.

Roman nights: The Italian restaurant in the heart of Kuwait takes you to the heart of Rome. Enjoy our exotic Italian specialties and our wide variety of Italian dishes with the music of our resident duo Stan and Alice.

## SPORTS

## Fit for life

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## British Council

CHILDREN film: The Little Prince-For the Love of Animals on Wednesday, Aug 30 at 6.00 pm and Thursday, Aug 31 at 10.30 pm.

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## FILM

# Power rates on the rise

By Margie Quimpo

POWER rate will go up 2.5 centavos per kilowatt hour every month from September to December this year. The increases will mean an additional P3.50 each month in the bills of most consumers of the Manila Electric Company.

Ernesto Abotiz, president of the state-owned National Power Corporation, said the staggered increase applies to the Luzon and Visayas grids. He said hydro-based power in Mindanao will increase by half a centavo per kilowatt hour.

The increase will bring the generation charge of the power firm to P1.08 per kilowatt hour from present rates of P0.98 per kWh.

NAPOCOR Chairman Ponciano Matay said it will be the first time in four years that the power firm is increasing its rates.

Abotiz also said NAPOCOR is considering a two-centavo monthly increase in the power rates from January to February next year. This will bring the rates to P1.12 per kWh.

Abotiz said, however, there will be no increases next year if

the government puts in equity in the power firm, if the firm earns more, or if its fuel costs go down.

The Department of Budget is proposing a P995-million equity allocation by the government to NAPOCOR.

Abotiz described the rate increase as a "two-rate increase" for the fuel oil and geothermal costs.

The increase in the rates was prompted by the 50-centavo increase per litre of fuel oil ordered by the Energy

Regulatory Board Wednesday and the adjustment in NAPOCOR'S steam cost of P0.0217 per kWh.

He said that the cost of generating power from steam sources went up because NAPOCOR had to pay the Philippine National Oil Company for the power firm's failure to meet the minimum volume of steam generation as stated in their contracts.

NAPOCOR has not fully used its geothermal based plants in the

Visayas grids since customers in the area failed to fulfill their load commitments with NAPOCOR considering the economic depression in the 1980s.

Abotiz said that the staggering of the rate increase was "for consumers to adjust."

The 10-centavo NAPOCOR rate increase is expected to result in an average 13.4-centavo per kWh increase in the rate of Meralco, NAPOCOR'S main customer.

NAPOCOR currently charges P0.98 per kWh to Meralco. This will go up to P1.08 by year end. Meralco will be charging an average of P1.214 per-kwh by the December year.

This means that most residential consumers will experience a P3.50 monthly increase in their electric bills in the next four months or a total of P14 by year-end.

The average residential consumer uses some 178 kilowatts hours monthly which costs about P250. With the new power rates, the average household will pay P253.50 for September, P257 for October, P260.50 for November and P264 for December.

## ESTIMATED INCREASE IN MONTHLY BILL OF RESIDENTIAL MERALCO CUSTOMERS GIVEN A 2.5 C/KWH INCREASE IN NPC RATES

MONTHLY KWH CONSUM.	PRESENT ELECTRIC BILL	MONTHLY INCREASE IN BILL	TOTAL BILL EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER
38	51.50	0.00	51.50
110	125.46	1.30	126.76
191	275.25	3.93	279.18
332	458.89	8.52	467.41
682	1,186.42	19.89	1,206.31
1,737	3,350.92	54.18	3,405.10

## Miriam's boldest move on PARC

AGRARIAN Reform Secretary Miriam Defensor-Santiago said she has asked President Aquino to inhibit herself from the discussions by the Presidential Agrarian Reform Council (PARC) next month on Hacienda Luisita, a sprawling sugar estate owned by the President's family in Tarlac.

The President is chairman of PARC.

Santiago, in turn, was reminded by the President to regularly attend the Wednesday Cabinet meetings.

Santiago said the President noticed her absence during last Wednesday's meeting. She said she was in Tuguegarao, Cagayan distributing land titles to farmers.

"I was very gently reminded by the President to faithfully attend all cabinet meetings," said Santiago after meeting with the President at the Guest House to discuss the PARC agenda.

Santiago has asked the President to inhibit herself from PARC meetings on Hacienda Luisita to erase doubts on whatever decisions would be taken on the 6,000-hectare estate.

"I suggested that perhaps it would be best if the President went on leave (as PARC chairman during the discussions)," said Santiago, PARC vice-chairman.

She said the President decided to refer the matter to Executive Secretary Catalino Macanag Jr.

"The President is actually conscious of the code of conduct for all government officials which she applied scrupulously to herself," Santiago said. "And it bothers her that there are any even so much as a shadow of a moral doubt about her participation."

The PARC monitors and oversees the implementation of the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Programme.

The Cojuangco's have availed themselves of the CARP's stock-transfer option scheme which allowed the President's family to distribute shares of stocks to the

Cojuangco corporation instead of distributing land titles from the estate.

The stock-transfer option gives landlords a 10-year moratorium on physical distribution of lands.

Asked about Santiago's suggestion for the President to inhibit herself in the hearings, Sen. Heherson Alvarez said: "It may be proper but not correct."

He explained that a Cabinet member can always give an advice to the President but he said: "it was the President who had, I think, ordered the review of this matter so she's very much aware of the possible conflict of interest that might arise from it."

He added that Santiago's advice might be "misunderstood and might hurt the programme more."

It said the acts of the three fiscal agents constituted "grossly inexcusable negligence amounting to evident bad faith to the damage and prejudice of the government and the Pistang Filipino complex."

MANILA: The PC said that the 2.5-ton unpruned cases belonging to Arms Corp. of the Philippines and ordered held by customs authorities at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport is covered by an authorisation.

Brig. Gen. Victor G. Navidad, deputy PC chief, who signed the authority on behalf of Maj. Gen. Ramon E. Montano, PC-INC chief, said the permit to purchase the unpruned cases is based on prior approval of Defence Undersecretary Fortunato Abat.

The shipment is also covered by a commercial letter of credit to the order of Prudential Bank of Makati and other import documents, Butch Tuason, president of Arms Corp. of the Philippines, said.

Arms Corp., a pioneer in gun manufacturing in the country, imported the unpruned cases from Hans Wäge and Comp. of Hamburg, West Germany.

TAGIG, Metro Manila: The Bicutan Parochial School, a new Catholic school which shares in the task of spreading the gospel, elected recently the officers of its Family Council.

Elected were Rodolfo Laranan, president; Teofilo Hipolito, vice-president; Salvacion de la Peña, secretary; Bernadette Mirasol, treasurer; and Teofilo Hipolito, PRO.

Class (II Ruby) officers are Bernardo Minsol, Anatolio Filio, Michelle Torrejas, Iris Calang, Gerald Alquiza, Kovakly "Cookie" Laranan, Janet Fernandez, Dennis Julius Vera, and Michael dela Cruz.

BATANGAS CITY: The Batangas Post, a community weekly, has won a case filed by two other periodicals which protested its participation in the raffle of legal and judicial notices for publication.

The Supreme Court upheld the Post's publication right granted by the late regional trial court Judge Romeo Silva.

On Sept. 6, 1983, Silva issued a memorandum whose dispositive portion reads as follows:

"Considering that the Batangas Post and the Country Recorder have now com-

## From the provinces

PARANQUE, Metro Manila: A PC sergeant assigned as bodyguard to Brig. Gen. Manuel Bruan, Constabulary Highway Patrol Group (CHPG), was shot dead by four armed men during a robbery in a passenger jeepney on Coastal Road, barangay San Dionisio here.

Pfc Rolly Santiago, officer-on-call, identified the victim as S/Sgt Alejandro P. Escano, 48, of barangay Batai, Santiago, Isabela.

Escano suffered a bullet wound in the eye, police said.

Police said that Escano was aboard a passenger jeepney with plant No. DEX-724 when the robbers armed with knives and handguns announced the holdup.

Police said that while the robbers were divesting others passengers of valuables, Escano pulled out his .357 calibre magnum but he was outnumbered by one of the robbers who shot him point blank in the face.

Escano was reportedly thrown out of the jeepney by the robbers. (Aris Ilagan)

MANILA: Criminal charges were filed before the Sandiganbayan against three fiscal agents (now asset monitors) of the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG).

Accused of violation of the anti-graft law were Hermenia Rivera, Hermenia Carrasco, and Guillermo Aviles — members of the PCGG's fiscal committee assigned to the sequestered Pistang Filipino complex in Malate.

The filing of the criminal cases was approved by Ombudsman Conrado M. Vasquez on recommendations made by Special Investigation Officer Jane Aurora C. Lantion.

Bail of P15,000 was recommended for each of the accused.

The charge sheet alleged that on Aug. 8, 1986, the three fiscal agents took P2.5 million from the management of Pistang Filipino and deposited the money in their personal accounts with a bank.

It said the acts of the three fiscal agents constituted "grossly inexcusable negligence amounting to evident bad faith to the damage and prejudice of the government and the Pistang Filipino complex."

MANILA: Filmada Inc. has been appointed sole distributor of the World Science Series for Metro Manila.

This was announced by Larry A. Hernandez, president and general manager of H. Academic Management, exclusive importer of the New Age Encyclopedia and authorized importer of Bay Books of Sydney and London.

Corpus said the move was initiated by the local chapter of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry of which he is the regional governor for Ilocos.

The use of the airport, he said, will encourage tourists and investors to come here for relaxation and business activities.

"We are asking the President to reopen it because it is part of our proposed P3 million integrated tourism development project in Nort

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"We expect some 50,000 visitors from Taiwan and Hong Kong. Many of them came here during the past years," he added.

CAMP NAKAR, Lucena City: Six members of the citizens and armed forces geographical unit (CAFGU) were dismissed while 200 others were placed under investigation for various offenses, it was reported.

Dismissed were CAFGU members Eduardo Abio of the 202nd Brigade based in Lumban, Laguna and Eric Molera of the Laguna Constabulary command, both facing homicide cases filed against them; CAFGU members of the 217th PC company based in Rosario, Batangas who was charged with alarm and scandal; and CAFGU members Teodora Morello and Arnelio Atienza, also both of the 217th PC company who were involved in kidnapping and shooting cases.

The names of the dismissed CAFGU elements were made available by Lt. Col. R. Gatchalian, Southern Luzon command's judge advocate general. Gatchalian recommended the dismissal of the six CAFGU members to Brig. Gen. Alejandro A. Galido, Solcom commander.

Jess Decena of the Solcom's public information office said that the dismissal of the six CAFGU members is in line with the campaign against misfits and scalawags in the armed forces.

TUGUEGARAO, Cagayan: Residents of the town and nearby towns condemned the continuous operations of the small-town lottery (STL) even as the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) in Manila has already withdrawn the authority given to STL operators to conduct lottery experiments here.

The residents and some local officials said the PCSO has sent memorandum circular No. 17 withdrawing effective July 15, the authority given to Cagayan Valley Management and Blue Pearl

Management and Development Corp. to conduct experiments on lottery operations.

Some residents said that Blue Pearl still continued to operate despite the PCSO order. Cagayan Valley Management has already ceased operations and is awaiting further orders from the PCSO.

The PCSO memorandum mandates that effective the middle of July, any lottery or continuance of experiments will be unlawful and not authorized by the PCSO because it will take over the STL operations here on or before the end of the month.

LAOAG CITY: Provincial board members Nestor Corpuz reported that a business group here is urging President Aquino to reopen the Laoag airport to international flights.

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## Increase in fuel prices assailed

### Trial for slay suspect

OPPOSITION to the higher prices of four oil products mounted and a newly formed multi-sectoral group said they would stage protest marches and rallies next week.

Rep. Hernando Perez (LDP, Batangas) criticized Malacanang for approving the price increases soon after Congress legislated higher minimum wages for private and government workers, saying this could fuel a further spiral in commodity prices.

He said recent wage increases have sent the inflation rate up to 10.3 percent, and warned that the "worst is yet to come" with the approval of higher oil prices.

"Even now prices of basic commodities are rising to unprecedented levels and double-digit inflation is a reality," Perez said in a privilege speech. "This threatens to render meaningless the recently mandated benefits and, if left unchecked, leave wage earners worse off than before."

The threat to stage protest actions was issued by the Coalition Against Oil Price Increase (CAOPI), which announced that it would lead a march to Malacanang next week to protest the government's decision to allow oil companies to raise the prices of fuel oil, aviation fuel, asphalt and thinners.

Nick Elman, a CAOPI spokesman, said the price increases were "patently deceptive" since government also planned to increase the prices of gasoline and diesel. He said the increases announced on Tuesday could already cover the higher price of crude oil in the international market.

Elman also warned that increases in power rates, freight charges and fares, which are expected to follow, would further erode the purchasing power of the peso and fuel inflation.

The Philippine Consumers Foundation, Inc. (PCFI) said it deplored Malacanang's decision to raise oil prices even while the Energy Regulatory Board (ERB) was still conducting public hearings on oil companies' petition for price increases.

Jose Isip, PCFI executive trustee, also said the formula used by the ERB in determining the rates of increase was defective. He said his group would continue to present arguments against increases in oil products during the hearing on August 22 and 23.

## SNIPPETS

**Anni's killer arrested:** The driver who robbed and killed his aunt in Las Pinas recently and his alleged New People's Army (NPA) former comrade friend was arrested by policemen in Tarlac.

Las Pinas police chief Maj Gonzalo Gonzales said that Garry Lu, 19, of 16 Kamias St., Dona Manuela Subd., Las Pinas, and his lover Julia Batangan, 17, of Panacan, Davao City, were arrested at 5 pm in an abandoned house in Sitio Mangalio, Barangay Victoria, Tarlac.

An informant tipped off the police of Lu's whereabouts, Gonzales said.

Lu was the principal suspect in the killing of Violeta Feleo, 33, also of Dona Manuela Subd., Las Pinas. She was found dead in the basement of her home with a bullet wound in the right temple, police said.

Batangan, Feleo's maid, was Lu's lookout when he robbed and killed his aunt, police said.

\* \* \*

**Extortion case:** A German accused in court in Cebu City, by a 15-year-old boy of committing acts of lasciviousness against him, told a trial court here an immigration employee has asked P20,000 from him so he could be "given justice."

Peter Lassick made the revelation as he took the witness stand to testify in the hearing of a case filed against him by one Rey Cantoria, a native of Masbate and a former houseboy.

He said the immigration man brought him to a third class midtown hotel after he was arrested and allegedly demanded for P20,000. He said he refused to give the amount.

The German, however, refused to identify the immigration man. He told newsmen he just did not want to fight the bid.

Lassick has been facing court trial for allegedly forcing Cantoria to perform sexual acts against his will.

He admitted he had performed sexual acts with his 15-year-old houseboy but without force.

\* \* \*

**Leathers' raided:** National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) agents raided two firms manufacturing fake bags, wallets, attache cases and other leather products of a Paris based company.

NBI agent Mamerto Espinosa identified the firms as Laida's Bag Factory at 29-B Congressional Ave. Ext. Proj. 6, and Rose Vir's Bag Manufacturing Company at 116 Rd. 20, Proj. 8, both in Quezon City.

Seized from Laida's were leather goods with the trademark and logo of the French company Louis Vuitton.

The owner, Adelaida Viray, was not around.

Confiscated from Rose Vir's were fake VL lady's handbags, shoulder bags, travelling bags, rolls of leatherette materials and sewing machines. The owner, Adelaida's sister Rose, refused to give a statement.

Vitum presented as witnesses Miguel Domingo and Bayam Alpon.

\* \* \*

**Five for life:** Five men who robbed and raped a businesswoman last October were sentenced yesterday to life imprisonment by a Kalookan City judge.

Judge Rene Victoriano also ordered Ernesto Abani, 24; Corrado Estrada, 20; Joseito Pajalago, 37; Clemente Cawaling, 22 and Rommel Andales, 24 to pay the woman, 48, P20,000 and return the money and jewels they took from her.

Victoriano and Special Court Prosecutor Neptali Aliposa found the five guilty of robbing and raping the woman at about 7 pm last Oct 14 at a vacant lot on 4th Ave., Kalookan.

The Chinese businesswoman was walking along 4th Ave. when Abani and a companion dragged her at knife-point to the vacant lot where Estrada, Pajalago, Cawaling and Andales joined them.

The woman told the court the men were laughing when her dress was torn. She claimed they took turns raping her.

"Pakigatapos mla akong pagasmatlahan ay pinaghabablot ang suot kong alahas pati na ang pera ko," the woman said.

\* \* \*

**Officials not to hold other posts:** Elected barangay officials are prohibited from holding other public positions including membership in the Citizens Armed Force Geographical Unit (CAFGU) and the barangay tanod brigade, the Department of Local Government said.

DLG underscretary Jacinto Culuban, 41, said the constitution states that no elective officials shall be eligible for appointment or designation in any capacity to any public office or position during his tenure.

Rubilar issued the statement, in answer to a query from Roseller Soro the municipal development officer of Floridablanca, Pampanga who asked if barangay officials who are members of the CAGFU can discharge the duties of both positions.

Soro also asked if an elected barangay official who refuses to assume his position and remains with the CAGFU is punishable under the law.

\* \* \*

**Ministers arrested:** Two Australian ministers, in the Philippines to attend a world conference of evangelical Christians, were arrested in Kidapawan, North Cotabato where they went to report on demolition of squatter homes.

All Senturias of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines said the Rev. Martin Newman and the Rev. John Smith, both of Melbourne were arrested while photographing the effects of July 8 demolition of hundreds of aqueduct shanties in Kidapawan.

Newman and Smith had flown to the town at the request of local Protestant UCCP bishop Lorenzo Genotiva, to document the demolition.

Senturias said local officials ordered the demolition because the squatters were living on government land earmarked for a nursery. But he said residents, who had been living there since 1985, had petitioned the Regional Trial Court to suspend the demolition.

\* \* \*

**6 gangmen arrested:** Six members of a Sampaloc-based Atiwan gang were arrested by Manila policemen while serving two German with drugged soft drinks.

They were Cristeta Mercado, 24; Delta Soriano, 40, Raymundo Fuentes, 34; Antonio Faustino, 38, and Bernardo Faustino, 51, all of 1834-A Segundo Loyola St., Sampaloc, and Lucio Maneclang, 24, of 1827 J.P. Laurel St., San Miguel, Manila.

A police team led by Sgt. Lucio Margallo IV and Hubert Numerz and Cpl. Graciano Bautista surrounded Soriano's house Wednesday and when an informant told them the gang would victimize two people.

Mercado and Maneclang then arrived with Germans' wallets.

\* \* \*

**Gangman jailed:** (WPD) Quiapo detachment that Rubio was being accompanied by a homosexual.

Four policemen waited outside the inn. At 12:30 am, Lopez went out. The policemen brought Lopez to the police station where he yielded the 45 of Rubio, gold necklace, two diamond-studded gold rings and P6,800, presumed to be owned also by the Air Force man.

\* \* \*

**Abrupt wedding plans:** A wedding plan by two young lovers ended when the man, mistakes for one of three robbers who barged in a Kalookan City sari-sari store, was shot dead by a passing policeman.

Marine engineering student Alvin Arellano, 18, of 137 Magtanggol St., Kalookan, had just come from the house of his fiancee Maribel Villena, 18, on A. Mabini St., Maypajo where they planned two years ahead about their wedding when he was shot.

Witnesses said Arellano raised his hands so he wouldn't be hit but he was shot and stoned in the head. A police photographer placed a bayonet knife in Arellano's waist when he fell, they added.

Police claimed Arellano tried to stab Cpl. Alexander Tria, prompting the policeman to shoot. The bullet hit Arellano in the left side of the body.

"Bakit ganoon? Najataas na ang kanyang kamay binari pa siya, nilagyan pa ng patahim," Arellano's mother, Juiletta, 41, said in tears.

Witnesses said Arellano was not among the three men who barged into the store of the Seguro family on A. Mabini St., Maypajo at about 10 p.m. and held the family hostage.

Two of the alleged robbers — Michelle and Edgar Comendario — were also shot dead.

Their companion Rolando Bustar, 18, of Kawal St., Dagat-Dagalan, was captured.

Bustar said Arellano was not a member of their gang and denied knowing him. "Hindi raman siya kasama, kung baki pitay siya," he added.



Victim's bride-to-be Maribel



Suspect Bustar

# Jai alai causes protests

OPPOSITION to the reopening of jai alai frontons appeared to have gathered strength, with two senators saying they would block the measure once it reaches the Senate.

Sen. Ernesto Macea, chairman of the committee on games and amusements, said they would reject House Bill 24632 which seeks to grant a franchise for the staging of jai alai games to the Royal Amusements Corp.

"While we would be obliged to look at the House bill as soon as it is transmitted, it is unlikely that we will calendar it for the rest of the year," Macea said. "It also has very little chance of passing the Senate of passing the Senate this year."

Sen. John Osmena also vowed to oppose the measure. "I have consistently been against all forms of gambling and I will strongly oppose the proposed jai alai measure if it reaches the Senate," he said.

Cebu Gov. Emilio R. Osmena, the senator's brother, also registered his opposition to the reopening of frontons anywhere in the country. He said he

would lobby Cebu congressmen, and ask President Aquino, if necessary, to reject the bill.

Gov. Osmena told newsmen that the Manila fronton were to be allowed to reopen, other frontons might as well be allowed to operate since there would be no way of containing the proliferation of masiao, an illegal numbers game based on the winning numbers of the top three finishers in the "special lave." Cebu City has the only other fronton in the country.

Macea said the Senate has taken a "conservative stance" against gambling by recommending the abolition of small-town lotteries (STL).

The Senate games and amusements committee has also recommended the phasing out of casinos by 1992.

Earlier, 10 members of the opposition in the House of Representatives and 15 members of the so-called Progressive Bloc said they would vote against the bill.

But a rough count in the House indicated the measure

would sail through since only 22 congressmen have indicated strong objections to the bill.

Debates on the franchise bill were scheduled last Thursday, but the committee on rules struck it off the calendar at the last minute without giving any reason.

Catholic Church leaders, however, have remained non-committal on the issue of reviving the once-popular Basque game.

When asked for comment, Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin said, "Oh, I don't know, I don't know."

Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal also withheld comment on the issue, but promised to make a statement soon.

Meanwhile, Rep. Hernando Perez denied that the committee on ways and means which he heads had endorsed the bill.

"The committee only deliberated and passed upon the revenue and tax aspects of the bill. It did not pass upon the merit of the bill," he said.

Perez said his committee had

no "jurisdiction over the franchise (and) it did not take a stand as to whether jai alai should be reopened or not."

"This issue (reopening of fronton) is an issue separate and distinct from the merits of its tax and revenue-related provisions," he said.

The House committee on games and amusement headed by Rep. Dante Tinga (LDP, Taguig-Pateros) earlier estimated that government would earn about P146.3 million a year if jai alai were to be revived.

In the earlier meeting on Tuesday, the Presidet directed Ordóñez to "secure the immediate convictions" of the top three tax evasion or smuggling cases filed in courts.

Cabinet Secretary Jose de Jesus reported that five cases against large-scale smuggling and tax evasion have been filed in court, six against illegal logging, two involving law enforcers and another two on human rights violations as a result of Aquino's directive.

Ordóñez issued the order a few hours after President Aquino placed him under probation allegedly his failure to prosecute big time grafters in the government.

Aquino also blamed Ordóñez for the slow dispensation and double standard of justice in the country. She also threatened to remove Ordóñez if he fails to improve the situation before the end of the year.

Ordóñez refused to comment directly on Aquino's order. He added, however, that four teams were created upon his suggestion.

Ordóñez said the four teams will be headed by the four DOJ Undersecretaries Silvestre Bello III, Ramon Liwag, Artemio Tuquero, and Eduardo Montenegro.

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## SPORTS

## Injured Austin confronts new challenge

LOS ANGELES, Aug 26. (Reuters): Since former US Open Tennis champion Tracy Austin was nearly killed in a car accident early this month, every day has become a new challenge.

Three weeks after having a bone graft from her hip and surgery on a broken right leg, Austin is feeling more at peace with herself and her accomplishments than ever before.

She suffered a bruised heart, a bruised spleen, mild concussion, a broken right

tibia, a damaged knee cartilage and cuts and bruises on her arms and legs.

"The accident has made me appreciate every day," the 26-year-old American said. "Compared to what could have happened, I'm a blessed person."

Austin, driving alone, was hit on

August 3 by a young motorist who drove through a red light in Short Hills, New Jersey.

Even though Austin is confined to a wheelchair, she plans to attend the second week of the US Open where she became

the youngest singles champion in 1979 and won a second title in 1981.

She will then return to her parents' home in the exclusive community of Rolling Hills Estates.

Austin, who forced to quit tennis in 1983 with a back injury, had just returned to the game with the New Jersey stars of the World Team Tennis League when she was hit by the car.

## REPORTERS' BRIEFS:

## Federal inquiry

TORONTO, Aug 26. (Reuters): A former member of the Canadian Track and Field Association yesterday denied allegations that he received evidence about steroid use by athletes. Will Wedemann told a federal inquiry he could not act on allegations that Ben Johnson and other Canadian athletes were taking steroids because he never had the evidence—namely, athletes and coaches willing to testify for the record.

## Sheehan ahead

LAKE LANDER Islands, Ga., Aug 26. (Reuters): Party Time Barrett shot the best round of her career yesterday to take a one-stroke lead at the halfway mark of the Women's World Championship of Golf.

## Barrett ahead

CRANSTON, R.I., Aug 26. (Reuters): Rookie Tina Barrett shot the best round of her career yesterday to take the first-round lead in the \$150,000 Ocean State Open at the Alpine Country Club.

## Excellent round

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Aug 26. (Reuters): Ted Schulte shot a scintillating seven-under-par 63 yesterday to take a one-shot lead after two rounds of the \$500,000 Chattanooga Classic with a 36-hole score of 11-under-par 129.

## Senior golf

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., Aug. 26. (AP): Two-time defending champion Bob Charles and Charles Cody each shot 6-under-par 66 yesterday to share the first-round lead of the \$300,000 Sunwest Bank Charley Pride senior tournament.

## Agassi triumphs

PRINCETON, N.J., Aug. 26. (AP): Andre Agassi served all five of his aces in the second set and defeated Shuzo Matsumoto of Japan 6-3, 6-1 in the quarterfinals of the New Jersey Bell Yellow Pages Invitational yesterday.

## Bagatelle banned

MOSCOW, Aug. 26. (Reuters): Shot putter Alexander Bagatelle has been disqualified from competition for two years by the Soviet Light Athletes Federation after failing a dope test. He tested positive for "Gym," the federation pre-dinner said yesterday.

## Steroid users

NEW YORK, Aug. 26. (AP): More than 50 male athletes who competed in the 1988 Seoul Olympics were found to have used anabolic steroids although they tested negative during the Games and were not disqualified, the New York Times reported today.

## Title fight

NEW YORK, Aug. 26. (Reuters): World heavyweight champion Mike Tyson will probably fight Razov Riddick of Canada in the defense of his crown, a spokesman for boxing promoter Don King said yesterday. King had been considering James "Buster" Douglas for Tyson's next fight, but spokesman Al Braverman said that Riddick was now the favorite.

## World record

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, Aug. 26. (AP): Olga Nazarkina of the Soviet Union set a new junior women's record in the 10,000-metre race at the European junior Track and Field Championships, the state Tassoj news agency reported. Nazarkina clocked 32 minutes and 25.75 seconds.

## 10-round bout

NEW YORK, Aug. 26. (AP): James "Buddy" McGirt, former International Boxing Federation junior welterweight title holder, may be undefeated at Madison Square Garden's Felt Forum. But that does not bother Gary Jacobs, the British Commonwealth champion, at all. McGirt, winner in all of his 20 appearances at the Felt Forum, and Jacobs, of Scotland, meet in a 10-round bout tomorrow afternoon.

## Ueda ahead

SHIMACHO, Japan, Aug. 26. (AP): Hiroshi Ueda shot a 70 today, and regained the lead with Harumitsu Hamano entering the final round of \$714,000 Daiwa-KBC Augusta Golf Tournament.

## Algeria win

ANNABA, Algeria, Aug. 26. (AP): Algeria's Rabah Madjer scored in the 56th minute to help Algeria beat the Ivory Coast, 1-0, yesterday and win its group in an African Zone World Cup soccer elimination match.

## Top boxer

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 26. (Reuters): The Mexican Boxing Council named American Pernell Whitaker boxer of the month for his points victory over Mexico's Jose Luis Ramirez in the lightweight title fight last Sunday.

## 1996 Games

ATLANTA, Aug. 26. (AP): Prince Albert of Monaco said that despite Atlanta's recent FBI ranking as No. 1 in violent crimes in the nation, the city stands a good chance of landing the 1996 Olympic Games.

## Best score

OHTHOTCHO, Japan, Aug. 26. (AP): Asako Hikage made an eagle-par-birdie finish en route to the day's best score of 67 and moved into the second-round lead in the Isuzu Ladies Golf Tournament.

## Sabatini survives lapse

## Navratilova edges Miyagi

TORONTO, Aug. 26. (Reuters): Defending champion Gabriela Sabatini survived a second-set lapse against fifth-seeded Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia yesterday to advance to a semifinals date with Spain's Arantxa Sanchez in the Canadian Open.

Sabatini, the second seed, put her game in order in the final set to prevail over Novotna 6-1 3-6 6-0 in their quarterfinal match in the \$300,000 championships.

The fourth-seeded Sanchez, the French Open champion, used her improved serve and athletic baseline game to power past Nathalie Tauziat of France 6-3 6-2.

The other semifinal will have top seed Martina Navratilova going against unseeded Australian Anne Minter, who has not won a set from Navratilova in five previous meetings.

Navratilova struggled to tame her own erratic serve and the stubborn, hard-hitting Japanese qualifier Nana Miyagi, in winning 6-2 3-6 6-2.

Minter used the confidence instilled by her stunning upset of

third-seeded Chris Evert earlier in the week to help her beat West German Sylvia Hanika 6-2 6-3.

Capitalizing on the 19-year-old Sabatini's wandering focus, Novotna piled up points with aggressive net play.

But as Novotna began to show signs of fatigue, Sabatini snapped to attention and used her top-spin shots to run the Czechoslovak off the court.

Although she has lost to Sabatini all seven times they've played, the Sanchez is looking forward to the match.

"She has topspin. Her game is good for me. It's not always easy with a player who plays topspin but I'd rather play that than someone who always comes to my net," Sanchez said.

Putting just 55 percent of her first serves in play, Navratilova lost her serve six times against the spunky Miyagi. From the beginning of the second set until the third game of the final set, she failed to hold serve five straight times.

In mid-match Miyagi, whose

beating two seeded players to reach the quarters, played smart tennis.

Playing the ball instead of Navratilova's reputation, Miyagi hit out, using her two-handed groundstrokes to either drill return of serve winners or cross court passing shots past Navratilova.

The turning point came in the fourth game of the final set when Navratilova raced across court to get to a drop shot. Scooping the ball up off her shoetops, Navratilova flicked a backhand cross court winner to break Miyagi for a 3-1 lead.

Miyagi, 18, who's been playing all week with a sore back, double faulted on match point.

"If my back wasn't sore, maybe I could have served a little better... but I am pleased with the way I played. It's my best tournament ever. I really can't believe I got this far," said Miyagi, who upset sixth-seeded Soviet Natalia Zvereva and 12th seed Radka Zrubková along the way.

Garry Norman of Australia made one of his patented charges and shot a five-under-par 65 for a total of 138. He was tied for second place with British Open champion Mark Calvacchia, who had a 67, and South African David Frost, who shot 68.

Steve Jones had the low round of the tournament so far—a 63—to go with his disappointing first-day 76, and was tied with PGA champion Payne Stewart, Larry Mize, Mike Reid and Brian Caar at one under 139.

Masters champion Nick Faldo of Britain had a four-birdie, two-

bogey round for a 68 and was tied for 10th with Paul Azinger and Blaine McCallister at even-par 140.

"I played a mixed bag again today," Crenshaw said. "I played some good holes and I played some off the charts, just awful."

The most "awful" hole was the 497-yard second. Crenshaw hit his third shot 50 yards over the green. His pitch from there hit a tree limb and bounded next to a concession stand. After a drop, his fifth shot was to the edge of the green and his sixth shot was to 12 feet. He finally made a putt for a seven.

Norman, winner of the international last weekend, had six birdies and one bogey. "Today, my concentration was clicking and I had some momentum," he said. "I didn't have any fire in me yesterday (when he shot 73)."

Curtis Strange had to withdraw after nine holes due to a neck injury, which he said he suffered on Thursday morning when turning to answer a telephone in his hotel room. After shooting an opening 76, he tried to play again yesterday, but a 40 on the front side was enough to have him withdraw.

**Reds lose in first game without Rose**

NEW YORK, Aug. 26. (AP): The Cincinnati Reds, playing their first game since manager Pete Rose was banned from baseball for life, lost to the Pittsburgh Pirates 12-3 last night.

Rose, the all-time hits leader, was barred from the game Thursday for having bet on his own team, commissioner A. Bartlett Giamatti announced.

A crowd of 25,722 brought only a few reminders of Rose to Riverfront Stadium including a sign that said "Thanks Pete for 426," his final hit total. Another sign said No. 14.

Fourteen was Rose's uniform number. It also was the number of hits the Pirates rolled up in the first six innings, on their way to a total of 17.

Interim manager Tommy Helms, who took over after Rose was banned, won loud cheers when he came out of the dugout for the first time — to remove starter Rick Mahler after the Reds fell behind 7-0 in the fourth inning.

Courier, who ranks 34th, beat fifth-seeded fellow-American Aaron Krickstein 3-6 6-3 6-4. He realized to win the last four games in the second set and broke Krickstein's service in the 10th game of the final set to clinch victory.

It was Courier's second upset win in as many days. On Thursday he eliminated Jimmy Connors, who was a last-minute replacement for Stefan Edberg of Sweden.

Chesnokov eliminated Anders Jarryd of Sweden 6-4 6-2.

In today's semifinals Chesnokov was to meet Lendl and Courier was to play Pernfors.

Results

American League	1st-Boston	2nd-Boston	3rd-Boston	4th-Boston	5th-Boston	6th-Boston	7th-Boston	8th-Boston	9th-Boston	10th-Boston	11th-Boston	12th-Boston	13th-Boston	14th-Boston	15th-Boston	16th-Boston	17th-Boston	18th-Boston	19th-Boston	20th-Boston	21st-Boston	22nd-Boston	23rd-Boston	24th-Boston	25th-Boston	26th-Boston	27th-Boston	28th-Boston	29th-Boston	30th-Boston	31st-Boston	32nd-Boston	33rd-Boston	34th-Boston	35th-Boston	36th-Boston	37th-Boston	38th-Boston	39th-Boston	40th-Boston	41st-Boston	42nd-Boston	43rd-Boston	44th-Boston	45th-Boston	46th-Boston	47th-Boston	48th-Boston	49th-Boston	50th-Boston	51st-Boston	52nd-Boston	53rd-Boston	54th-Boston	55th-Boston	56th-Boston	57th-Boston	58th-Boston	59th-Boston	60th-Boston	61st-Boston	62nd-Boston	63rd-Boston	64th-Boston	65th-Boston	66th-Boston	67th-Boston	68th-Boston	69th-Boston	70th-Boston	71st-Boston	72nd-Boston	73rd-Boston	74th-Boston	75th-Boston	76th-Boston	77th-Boston	78th-Boston	79th-Boston	80th-Boston	81st-Boston	82nd-Boston	83rd-Boston	84th-Boston	85th-Boston	86th-Boston	87th-Boston	88th-Boston	89th-Boston	90th-Boston	91st-Boston	92nd-Boston	93rd-Boston	94th-Boston	95th-Boston	96th-Boston	97th-Boston	98th-Boston	99th-Boston	100th-Boston	101st-Boston	102nd-Boston	103rd-Boston	104th-Boston	105th-Boston	106th-Boston	107th-Boston	108th-Boston	109th-Boston	110th-Boston	111th-Boston	112th-Boston	113th-Boston	114th-Boston	115th-Boston	116th-Boston	117th-Boston	118th-Boston	119th-Boston	120th-Boston	121st-Boston	122nd-Boston	123rd-Boston	124th-Boston	125th-Boston	126th-Boston	127th-Boston	128th-Boston	129th-Boston	130th-Boston	131st-Boston	132nd-Boston	133rd-Boston	134th-Boston	135th-Boston	136th-Boston	137th-Boston	138th-Boston	139th-Boston	140th-Boston	141st-Boston	142nd-Boston	143rd-Boston	144th-Boston	145th-Boston	146th-Boston	147th-Boston	148th-Boston	149th-Boston	150th-Boston	151st-Boston	152nd-Boston	153rd-Boston	154th-Boston	155th-Boston	156th-Boston	157th-Boston	158th-Boston	159th-Boston	160th-Boston	161st-Boston	162nd-Boston	163rd-Boston	164th-Boston	165th-Boston	166th-Boston	167th-Boston	168th-Boston	169th-Boston	170th-Boston	171st-Boston	172nd-Boston	173rd-Boston	174th-Boston	175th-Boston	176th-Boston	177th-Boston	178th-Boston	179th-Boston	180th-Boston	181st-Boston	182nd-Boston	183rd-Boston	184th-Boston	185th-Boston	186th-Boston	187th-Boston	188th-Boston	189th-Boston	190th-Boston	191st-Boston	192nd-Boston	193rd-Boston	194th-Boston	195th-Boston	196th-Boston	197th-Boston	198th-Boston	199th-Boston	200th-Boston	201st-Boston	202nd-Boston	203rd-Boston	204th-Boston	205th-Boston	206th-Boston	207th-Boston	

